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EASTERN

F.O.

371

1947

PALESTINE

File No. 84

pp. 8642-9314

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Reference:

**FO 371/61849**

CLOSED  
UNTIL

1978

61849



2801  
164

1947

E

E 8642

2

PALESTINE

SEP 1

Registry Number E8642/84/31.  
FROM Embassy  
No. Athens.  
Dated 3/43  
Received in Registry 13 Sept 19

S.S. Corina  
Ltr 7-0-11 1875 (E8443/84/21) transmit copy of note to my Foreign Office no 410 of Sept 13. Requesting Greek Govt not to grant Greek Registration to the 'Corina' and to inform the Roumanian Govt that Greek registration will not be granted to her.

Last Paper

8620

References

18/10

(Print)

61849

(How disposed of)

✓ Higham C.O.  
Cashed, Cab. Off.  
Robertson M.I.S.  
✓ Sept 24

✓ Int'l. as above  
Oct 14

(Action completed)

G.L.M. 24/9

(Index)

9/8/48

Next Paper

8644

(Minutes.)

Copies to: C.O. } usual  
M.I.S. } names  
Cabinet Office }  
19/9

In P.P. Athens despatch 355 25/9

Copies as above

6/10

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No. 343  
46/345/47

HIS Majesty's Ambassador at Athens  
presents his compliments to H.M.P.S. of S. for F.A.  
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned  
documents.

British... Embassy,  
..... Athens

E 8642

13th. September, 1947

Reference to previous correspondence:

Foreign Office telegram No. 1878 of 11th Sept.

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Note Verbale to Ministry of Foreign Affairs No. 410 (46/345/47) of 13th September, 1947	Illegal Jewish immigration - granting of Greek registration to CORINA.

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:-

FO 371 / 61849

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BRITISH EMBASSY,  
ATHENS

**No. 412**  
**(40/248/47)**

His Britannic Majesty's Embassy present their compliments to the Royal Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs and on the instructions of His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, have the honour to draw the attention of the Royal Hellenic Government to the following matter.

His Majesty's Government have received a report that the 500-ton motor vessel Corina (late Sfantu Stefan), which is fitted for carrying illegal Jewish immigrants and which holds a permit to leave Roumanian waters, is about to sail from Macin in order to obtain a provisional certificate of Greek registration from the Greek Consulate-General at Istanbul.

His Majesty's Government believe that this vessel will attempt to embark illegal Jewish immigrants from Roumania and they are anxious to prevent her departure. His Majesty's Embassy have therefore been instructed to request the Royal Government to instruct the Greek Consul-General at Istanbul not to grant Greek registration to the Corina and to inform the Roumanian Government that Greek registration will not be granted to her.

His Majesty's Embassy avail themselves of this opportunity to renew to the Royal Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs the assurance of their highest consideration.

18th September, 1947

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Reference:

**FO 371 / 61849**

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765

1947

E

E 8644

PALESTINE

Registry Number

ES644/84/31

FROM

Embassy

No.

Paris

Dated

12 Sept

Received in Registry

19 -

S.S. Northlands

copy of letter from G.O. Crossly, Paris, to Consul Bordeaux of 12 Sept enclosing translation of letter received from M. Deans dated Sept 5, re the "Northlands"

Last Paper

8642

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

8/1 telegram B.O. Robertson M.I.S. looked back off Sept 24

(Action completed)

5 EMB 26/9

(Index)

98/18

Next Paper

(4733)

E8685

(Minutes.)

copy to: G.O. M.I.S. Bahraini office } usual names

These letters refer to the attempts made by H.M. Embassy in Paris to get the Panamanian representatives there and in Bordeaux to recommend withdrawal of Panamanian registry from the "PAIDUCAN" and "NORTHLANDS"

The Panamanian Consul is obviously either very lazy or else open to influence.

N.A. D... 19/9

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**SECRET**

**IN**

**WARNING:** This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message, and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

8885

(\*NOTE: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad: "O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

From: C. in C. Mediterranean.

181252/September.

Date: 18.9.47.

Recd: 1709

**SECRETEX**

TO: Admiralty.

I would like to be sure that the earliest possible information is received of any signs of preparation, loading or movement in the Black Sea Ports, of PADUCAH and NORTHLAND as well as of the four suspect ships at Macin near Braila. It is requested that any intelligence received by the Foreign Office from their representatives may be signalled without delay.

2. A concentration of two or more of these ships, appears possible and will require a considerable force to arrest. Early warning of movements to enable the Palestine patrol to be reinforced as economically as possible is therefore important.

181252

Advance Copy D.C., R.C.  
sent 1925/18

- 1st Lord.
- 1st S.L.(3)
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S.
- Naval Secretary
- Secretary
- U.S.S.
- O.D.(8)
- D.C.(2)
- M.(8)
- D.N.I.(5) for action
- D. of P.(2)
- D. of P.(Q)
- C.N.I.(2)

J.R.

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SECRET FILE

16

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

<u>FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO</u>	<u>ANGORA</u>	<u>No. 786</u>
	<u>BUCHAREST</u>	<u>No. 960</u>
	<u>SOFIA</u>	<u>No. 1275</u>

September 19th, 1947. D. 7.15 p.m. September 19th, 1947.

Repeated to C-in-C. Mediterranean.

JJJ

CONFIDENTIAL

Jewish illegal immigration.

Please repeat all telegrams about movement, loading or preparation of suspect ships to C-in-C. Mediterranean.

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61849**

2478  
367

1947

E

PALESTINE

E 8715

SEP 17

Registry Number

E 8715/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

Paris

909

Sept 20

22

S.S. 'PAN YORK'

Control Room reports 'Pan York' reported to sail today 20/9 from Rouen & Harbours. Not port required at Brest and Rouen.

Last Paper.

8675

(Minutes.)

*[Signature]* 22/9

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8. 2. 2. P. ~~but~~ Oct 2.

(Action completed.)

*[Signature]* 6/10

(Index.)

*[Signature]*

Next Paper.

8763

32008 F.O.P.

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20 copies please.

99.

E 8715

E 18.

Cypher/OTP

SEP

ADMIRALTY

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Ashley Clarke, D. 2.12.p.m. September 20th,  
No. 909 1947.  
September 20th, 1947. R. 2.30.p.m. September 20th,  
1947.

6 6 6 6 6

Please pass following to Admiralty for  
Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean.

To: Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean (Admiralty  
please pass).

INFO: Admiralty.

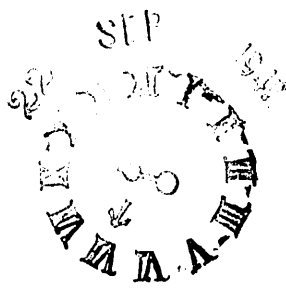
From: B.N.A. Paris.

Secret.

Consul Rouen reports Pan York expected to  
sail to-day 20th from Rouen to Bordeaux. Oil fuel  
refused at Brest and Rouen.

2. It is highly probable this ship is for  
Jewish traffic.

201217.



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3449  
368

E

19

E 8763

1947

PALESTINE

SEP 1

Registry Number

E 8763/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

Mr N. Melly  
Angora

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

658

19 Sept  
22

SS 'March Lands'

My Foreign Affairs have no news of 'March Lands' since she passed into the Black Sea, but have telegraphed to their Consul at Varna to look out for her.

Last Paper.

8715

(Minutes.)

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8/ 9.9. P.  
Sept 29

(Action completed.)

J.C.M. 23/9

(Index)

J.C.M. 23/9

Next Paper.

E 8801

32008 F.O.P.

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E 20

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM ANGORA TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Sir D. Kelly  
No. 658

D. 10.27 a.m. 20th September 1947  
R. 1.50 p.m. 20th September 1947

19th September 1947

Repeated to Bucharest  
Moscow  
Sofia

~~R12871~~  
22 SEP 1947

V V V 1955 - E

CONFIDENTIAL.

*irrelevant - copy attached*

Your telegram No. 900 [sic] to Bucharest:  
Northlands.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs have no news of  
Northlands since she passed into the Black Sea but  
have telegraphed to their Consul at Varna to look  
out for her.

Foreign Office repeat to Bucharest and Moscow  
as my telegrams Nos. 10 and 18 respectively.

[Repeated to Bucharest and Moscow].

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].

22 SEP 1947  
25 SEP 1947

E 8763  
22 SEP 1947

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270

21

E

E 8879

1947

PALESTINE

21 SEP 1947

Registry Number

E 8879/84/31

FROM

Minj of Transport  
Cannon

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

26 Sept

SS. "ASSAROE"

Copy of letter from F.B. Reame to J. Hepburn,  
stating "ASSAROE" paid under EIRE flag,  
and agreeing that J. Hepburn would take  
further action with C.R.O.

Last Paper

8801

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Minutes.)

This a ship suspected of being  
intended for the Jewish illegal immigration  
traffic.

Commonwealth Liaison Dept ✓ MS 27/IX

Jess  
26/9

(Action completed)

J.E. 29/9

(Index)

MS 27/IX

Next Paper

8882

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Reference: FO 371/61849



771

23

E

E 8882

1947

PALESTINE

26 SEP 1947

Registry Number E 8882/84/31

FROM

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

Embassy  
Abandoned  
16/12  
12 Sept  
26 -

S.S. Podewick  
Re: Abandoned tel 250 (E 8166/84/31)  
Transmit copies of correspondence with  
US State Foreign Affairs, re case of  
refugee for Jews about to embark on S.S.  
'Podewick'.

Last Paper

8879

References

MA

(Print)

(How disposed of)

9/ Bucharest 442  
Moscow 1038  
Sofia 236  
Sept Oct 2.

(Action completed)

JCB 7/10

(Index)

[Handwritten initials]

Next Paper

8883

(Minutes.)

Copies to:

Bucharest  
Moscow  
Sofia

The Uruguayans have been very helpful.

S.A. Dept JCP 6/10

[Signature] 26/9

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

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RESTRICTED.

No. 161

K 24

HIS Majesty's Ambassador at Montevideo  
the Secretary of State  
presents his compliments to for Foreign Affairs.  
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned  
documents.

British Embassy.....  
.....Montevideo.....

12th September...., 1947..

Reference to previous correspondence:  
Montevideo telegram No. 250.

E. 8882

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
To Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs. 28th August 1947.	28 SEP
From Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs. 2nd September.	Jewish Illegal Emigrants in
To Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs. 6th September 1947.	s.s. "PADUCAH".
(Copy to Chancery, Moscow)	

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61849

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2.

I should therefore be most grateful if I might be informed at the earliest possible moment whether the issue of any such visas has in fact been authorised by the Uruguayan authorities and, if an assurance can be given that no such authorisation has been issued, if this might be communicated also direct by the Uruguayan Government to the Government of the U.S.S.R.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you, Sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

(signed) Gordon Vereker.

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(Enclosure No. 2 in Montevideo despatch No. 161 of 12th September, 1947).

57

(Translation)

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,  
MONTEVIDEO.  
2nd September, 1947.  
(recd. 3rd Sept.)

Sir,

In reply to Your Excellency's Note No. 142 of the 28th August, I have pleasure in informing you that this Department of State addressed the following telegrams to the Uruguayan Consul at Bucharest, without so far having obtained a reply:-

"29th August, 1947. Report urgently if you have granted visas. If so, state in what character and to what persons".

"1st September, 1947. Urge reply my telegram 29th August. Failure to reply may cause serious disciplinary action to be taken".

The Uruguayan Legation at Moscow for its part sent the following telegram to this Department of State on the 30th August:-

"B 1122. British Embassy asks me ascertain if our Government authorised visas Jewish families Constantza ready embark steamer "PADUCAH" Panamanian flag and chartered New York. British Representative in Roumania believes local authorities possibly may not be able intervene efficaciously to prevent embarkation and departure vessel with persons calculated to number 500 in event of not receiving help from Soviet authorities. British Embassy, Moscow, entrusted with this matter, asks for official information regarding supposed Uruguayan visas prior to requesting Soviet help in order to prevent embarkation and journey to Constantza-Haifa in accordance undertakings Resolution on Palestine problem New York Meeting 15th May last. I await telegraphic reply. Sampognaro".

A reply to the above telegram has to-day been sent as follows:-

"Reference B 1122. Government did not authorise such visas. If Uruguayan Consul, Bucharest, has granted them, they should be regarded as invalid, in view of fact that he would have exceeded his powers by omission request prior authorisation from Government".

I am, etc.,

(signed) Tomás J. de la Fuente.

His Excellency,  
Gordon G.M. Vereker, Esq., C.M.G., M.C.,  
etc., etc., etc.,

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2043  
872

29

E

E 8883

PALESTINE

26 SEP 1947

Registry Number E8883/84/31  
FROM Ministry of Transport  
No. bound  
Dated 26 Sept  
Received in Registry

Illegal Immigrant Ship, Denial of Insurance.  
Transmit copy of letter from Mr Rennie of 22 Sept to Mr Eveshed and copy of reply discussing advantages etc of staying insured on the London Market to respect shipping.

Last Paper

8882

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Minutes.)

This will presumably be discussed at the next meeting of the Working Party. Mr. Eveshed is very keen on the idea, but I see very little point in it myself. Even if we could prevent a ship from obtaining insurance anywhere (a most unlikely contingency!) that would not deter the organizers, who would, in any case, receive no compensation for their ships when these were impounded by the Palestine authorities.

R.U. 1/9/47

J. E. Cable  
(J.E. CABLE)  
29/9

I agree

J.B. Sept. 29

(Action completed)

J. E. Cable 2/10

(Index)

[Handwritten signature]

Next Paper

8931

The working party decided to take the action suggested in the attached letter to Min of the

[Handwritten signature] 2/10

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Mr. J.M. Cable - Foreign Office.

Enter to Palestine

E

September, 1947.

Ref: 6/9/20

26 SEP 1947

Dear Rennie,

Thank you for your letter dated 22nd September about insurance of suspect ships.

(See Chairman's statement in IIP(47) 11th PtG., 1in. 4B).

I question whether your argument that there would be no advantage in arranging to deny insurance in the United Kingdom since it would "merely lead to the insurance being placed abroad" is quite in accordance with the general methods the I.L.P. Committee has adopted for dealing with illegal immigration. It has always been recognised that there was almost nothing we could do (short of legislation to detain ships and arrest on the high seas which Ministers would not permit) which would ever guarantee to prevent any particular ship sailing. The tactics employed have, therefore, consistently been to impose such obstacles and delays as were within our powers in the hope that the cumulative effect of such action would have a worth-while effect, and, on the whole, I think these tactics have worked.

In any case the argument you adduce is equally applicable to other measures - such as the denial of oil fuel - where suspect ships can and do turn to foreign concerns when they are refused service by British firms. Nevertheless, the resulting delay has frequently been worth-while.

A further point that occurs to me is that if a ship like Las Tampus is insured with a British firm it may make the task of our diplomats abroad even more difficult than it already is, for I suggest they would suffer some embarrassment if, for example, when they were reproaching the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs for permitting the departure of Las Tampus, it was pointed out to them that apparently the British Government did not attempt to place obstacles in the way of her sailing since she was insured by a reputable British firm.

Cable will no doubt remark on the validity of this consideration, but I still think it would be useful to have an insurance expert at the next meeting of the Working Party so that we may learn something about - (a) the methods of insurance; (b) why ships like Las Tampus come to London for insurance; (c) what they do if London will not insure them; (d) what sort of delay would be imposed; (e) what practical steps could be taken to prevent suspect ships from insuring in London.

I am sending copies of this letter to Higham, Cable and Scherr.

Yours,

(Sd.) Walter Evershed.

F. C. Rennie, Esq.,  
Ministry of Transport,  
Berkeley Square House,  
Berkeley Square, W.1.

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FO 371 / 61849

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373

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PALESTINE

E 8931

1947

SEP 1

Registry Number

E8931/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No. 24 Rutley Clarke

Dated

Paris

Received in Registry

920  
26 Sept

S.S. "PAN YORK"

S.S. "PAN YORK" arrived Bordeaux 25 Sept  
loaded 750 tons fuel oil sailed 26 Sept  
Monday for Philippeville.

Last Paper.

888 S

(Minutes.)

27/9

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

9.9.47  
Sept 29

(Action completed.)

G.A.M. 29/9

(Index)

[Signature]

Next Paper.

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Cypher/OTP

34 E

E 8931  
DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Ashley Clarke,  
No. 220  
25th September, 1947.

D. 12.57 p.m. 26th September, 1947.

R. 5.00 p.m. 26th September, 1947.

Q Q Q

IMMEDIATE

Following received from Bordeaux telegram No. 27 of  
25th September.

[Begins].

SECRET.

Jewish illegal immigration.

S.S. "Pan York" arrived Bordeaux yesterday loaded 750  
tons fuel oil sailed today mid-day for Phillippeville.

[Ends].

Please repeat to Foreign Office.



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2nd P.P. bnt. Medtel 29/406 29/9  
- CRO ut D 489 (S) 4/11

*[Signature]*  
16/10

36A

Tel. Angara 823  
Rptd Bucharest 1013  
Moscow 3091  
Sofia 1323  
Sept 30  
8, 9.9.P.  
Oct 7.

Tel. Moscow 3092  
Rptd Angara 824  
Bucharest 1014  
Sofia 1324  
Sept 30

8, 9.9.P.  
Oct 7.

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Serial 37

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM ANGORA TO FOREIGN OFFICE NO. 676

E 9011

ISTANBUL

SMYRNA

COMMANDER-in-CHIEF MEDITERRANEAN

SEP 1947

Sir D. Kelly

D. 10.25 a.m. 29th September 1947

29th September 1947

R. 12.50 p.m. 29th September 1947

Repeated to Bucharest  
Sofia  
Jerusalem

c c c c c

IMMEDIATE

Jewish immigrant ships.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs informs me that Paducah and Northlands passed Istanbul without stopping at midnight September 27th.

Foreign Office pass to Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean and Bucharest as my telegrams Nos. 1 and 12 respectively.

[Copies sent to War Registry Admiralty for repetition to Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean. Repeated to Bucharest].

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in imposing a heavy fine on  
"NORTHLANDS" and seizing "PAN  
CRESCENT" as security for its payment.  
French Govt. took similar action  
when they seized "NORTHLANDS"  
as security for fines imposed on  
"PRESIDENT WARFIELD". In that  
instance, unfortunately, fine was  
small enough to be paid, thus  
releasing "NORTHLANDS". Bulgarian  
(or Roumanian) Govt. should endeavour  
to avoid that error.

2. If action proposed in  
my telegram no. (B) 23 to Angola  
is to be effective, H.M. Ambassador  
in Angola must have advance  
warning of "PAN CRESCENT's"  
movements. You should make  
every effort to keep her  
under observation and to report  
her movements.

*RS*  
7/27/9

38A

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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39  
OUT FILE

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on.]

E.9011/84/31  
Confidential.  
CYPHER/OTF

CABINET DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO BUCHAREST NO. 1,012  
SOFIA NO. 1,322

30th September, 1947. D: 11.00 p.m. 30th September, 1947.

Repeated to: Angora No. 822, ) Immediate.  
Moscow No. 3,090, )  
Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean.

@@@ @@@ @@@

IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL

My telegram No. 1,003 to Bucharest and my telegram No. 823 to Angora [of 29th and 30th September: Jewish illegal immigration].

You will probably know by now where "Paducah" and "Northlands" embarked their passengers and whether or not this was done with the connivance of the authorities. You should frame your representations about "Pan Crescent" accordingly. If Jews were embarked in defiance of local instructions (as assurances given by Bulgarian Government, in particular, would suggest) you may find following additional argument useful. Weston Trading Company (who owned "Northlands") are now in liquidation and are reported to be administered by F. and B. Company (who own "Pan Crescent"). Bulgarian (or Roumanian) Government would, therefore, be justified in imposing a heavy fine on "Northlands" and seizing "Pan Crescent" as security for its payment. French Government took similar action when they seized "Northlands" as security for fines imposed on "President Warfield". In that instance, unfortunately, fine was small enough to be paid, thus releasing "Northlands". Bulgarian (or Roumanian) Government should endeavour to avoid that error.

2. If action proposed in my telegram No. 823 to Angora is to be effective, His Majesty's Ambassador in Angora must have advance warning of "Pan Crescent's" movements. You should make every effort to keep her under observation and to report her movements.

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OUT FILE

41

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E.9011/84/31.

Confidential.

Cypher/OTP. CABINET DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO MOSCOW

No. 3092.

D. 11.00 p.m. 30th September 1947.

30th September, 1947.

Repeated to Angora No.824  
Bucharest No.1014  
Sofia No.1324.  
Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean

IMPORTANT.

- - - -

CONFIDENTIAL.

My telegrams Nos.1012 to Bucharest and 823 to Angora [of 30th September: Jewish illegal immigration].

When His Majesty's Representative in Sofia (or Bucharest) reports the nature of his representations about "Pan Crescent", please take the matter up with Soviet Government and endeavour to enlist their support locally.

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

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Registry  
No. E9011/84/31

Top Secret.  
Secret.  
Confidential.  
Restricted.  
Open.

Draft.

ANGRA

Telegram.

No. 823

(Date) Sept 30

Repeat to:—

Buchanan (10/3)  
Marsden (10/3)  
Sofia (10/3)  
c. in c. M. d.

Adm. Cons

RA-5/10

Southern Bell Field

En-Clair.

Code.

Cypher.

Distribution:—

~~Department No. 1~~  
Cabinet [ ]

Copies to:—

I.I.F.

(B)

OUT FILE

F. O.,

11/194

Despatched 0 15 A. M.

IMMEDIATE

My telegram no. 1003 to  
Buchanan [of 24th September: Jewish  
[legal immigration] and my telegram no.  
[A] to Buchanan [of 30th September]  
"PAN CRESCENT" entered Dardanelles  
on evening of 24th September.

2. It is most important to  
prevent her reaching Palestine waters  
with Jews on board, both because  
of her very large capacity and  
because she may prove to be  
"unboardable".

3. In my telegram no. 713  
I suggested that provisions  
of Montreux Convention should be  
utilized to prevent passage through  
straits of "PADUCAH" and in your  
telegram no. 603 you reported favorable  
Turkish reaction. Your telegram  
no. 676 shows, however, that both  
"PADUCAH" and "NORTHLANDS" passed  
through straits without stopping  
for sanitary inspection prescribed  
by Article 3 of Convention. Please  
press Turkish Govt most strongly  
/to

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

3148 Wt. 26469/137 50m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

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Reference: FO 371/61849

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**SECRET**

IN

**WARNING :** This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message, and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

(\*NOTE : Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad <sup>291106/September.</sup>  
"O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)  
From, C. in C. Med. Afloat. Date. 29-9-47.

Recd. 1730.

SECRETEX.

To, Admiralty,  
Info. Compl, High Com. Palestine., C. in C. Med. Malta.

REPORT.

Detailed description of PAN CRESCENT signalled by CHILDERS indicates she may be extremely difficult to board underway. Her large tonnage, high sides and fact that several of her fifteen foot long steel cargo derricks could be secured on board horizontally will be formidable obstacles, and she is reported to have extensive steam pipes round upper deck; indeed she may prove to be in the category "unboardable".

2. Following information of intended tactics received from N.O.I.C. Trieste; on arrival in Palestine territorial waters passengers disembark in small boats and when empty ship will be sunk to prevent reshipment of immigrants in her. A motor launch will land crew at prepared place where provision will be made for their return journey.

3. Request every possible measure be taken to prevent this ship leaving a Black Sea port loaded and that Turkish authorities be pressed to apply procedure outlined in paragraph three of A.M. 261028 August (not to all) if she does so.

291106a.

Advance copies sent D.C. & R.C.

1st Lord.  
1st S.L. (3)  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.I.S.  
Naval Secretary.  
Secretary.  
U.S.S.  
O.D. (8)  
D.C. (2)  
D.N.I. (5)  
M. (8)  
D. of P. (2)  
D. of P. (9)  
C.N.I. (2)

32.  
D.B.

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

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be able to exercise some influence  
on his Govt., who have been consistently  
uncooperative.

I suggest, therefore, that  
we should avoid taking part in  
this internecine feud. We should  
reply to this note by giving Dr.  
Ponras the subsequent history of  
the "Paducah" and "Northlands" and  
requesting him to take urgent action  
to secure withdrawal of Panamanian  
registration from the two suspect  
ships ~~PANORAMA~~ "PAN CRESCENT"  
and "PAN YORK". We have already  
approached Señor Morales on this  
subject so that, whoever wins, we  
should stand a chance of gaining.

We might also write to  
Mr. Greenway and ask him for  
his comments on the affair [which  
is ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~  
~~\_\_\_\_\_~~  
~~\_\_\_\_\_~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ probably political in origin).  
Dr. Ponras' request for information  
about cases in which consular inspections  
are a farce may be a dig at  
his own Consul-General or it may  
refer to the masterly inactivity of  
the Panamanian Consul-General at  
Bordeaux (please see E8644). If the  
latter, I am doubtful of the propriety  
of mentioning this matter in an official  
note. It has, in any case, already been  
raised by our Embassy in Paris.  
/ North

46A

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North American Dept. will doubtless wish to comment.

*Cable*  
(C.F.R. CABLE)  
3/10

N.A. Dept.

We should send a copy of this note to Panama, referring to our note under reply and giving a short account of the peculiar situation in the Panamanian Legation and Consulate - Gen.

J. Bort. 3

I agree with Mr. Cable that we should avoid <sup>any</sup> form of participation in Dr. Pomas' feud. Our main interest is in the success of ~~our~~ our efforts to get registration withdrawn from suspect ships, and who does this hardly matters to us.

It has been rumored that Dr. Pomas is going back to Panama to run for President in the forthcoming elections. This may account for the sudden stir in the Panamanian camp.

*J. Jackson*

Mr. Stephens. Dr Pomas is a hasty 3/10.  
/pim?

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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Reference: FO 371 / 61849



Minutes.

47A

point - was a big expenditure  
on the S. Locales.  
However after that  
we should keep out.  
If this fund a that  
we should put  
the frequency in the  
picture. *St. John*

4/x.

I submit drafts to Dr.  
Parras and Mr. Greenway.

*[Signature]*  
(WIRE-CABLE)

6/10

N.A. *[Signature]* again

*[Signature]*  
11/10

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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Reference: **FO 371/61849**

LEGACION DE PANAMA

LFO/194  
DAP/jer.

E 9082

2 OCT 1947

4 Wilton Place,  
London, S.W.1.

E 48

London, 30th September, 1947.

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to Your Excellency's note No. E 8450/84/31 with regards to the two ships "Paducah" and "Northlands", both of which are expected to attempt to embark Jewish illegal immigrants from a Black Sea Port in the very near future.

I have taken all the necessary steps with our Government to withdraw registration of these ships but it seems that our Government instructed our Minister in Paris to do the necessary investigations. Up to the present moment I have had no further news about these ships, although I am of the opinion that our Government seems reluctant to take immediate steps due to information sent directly to Panama by our Consul General in London with regards to an alleged boycott suffered by our ships in territorial waters and sea-ports of the United Kingdom.

I was instructed by our Government to take the necessary steps with the Foreign Office in order to cease these alleged boycotts and addressed to you my Note LFO/152 of August 4th and was replied by your Note No. AN 3051/11/32 of 16th September in which you state that "the Panamanian Government can rest assured that if any measures such as you mention have in fact been taken, it has been solely because the ship concerned has been suspected of engaging in this traffic". The Foreign Office also asked in this note for the names of the Panamanian ships which are alleged to have been subjected to discrimination. I asked our Consul General in London to furnish me with these names but up to the present moment no reply has been received by me.

I have the honour to copy translations of cablegrams crossed between myself and our Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores with regards to these ships:

EXTERIORES/

The Rt. Hon. Ernest Bevin,  
H.M. Secretary for Foreign Affairs,  
Foreign Office,  
S.W.1.

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

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"EXTERIORES - PANAMA - NUMBER 40 STOP LONDON NEWSPAPERS  
 "HAVE NEWS SHIP PANAMA FLAG IS MEDITERRANEAN PORTS BUYING  
 "PROVISIONS AND SUPPLIES TWO THOUSAND PASSENGERS ALTHOUGH  
 "SHIP HAS NO FACILITIES ON BOARDS THESE NUMBER PASSENGERS  
 "STOP SHIP NAMED PADUCAH ACCRODING NEWSPAPERS NOT  
 "REGISTERED ANY MARITIME REGISTER STOP THIS LEGATION ASKS  
 "INVESTIGATION OUR SHIPS SECTION TO VERIFY REGISTRATION  
 "THIS SHIP AND ACT SUCH WAY PREVENT THIS SHIP CRAWLS  
 "PALESTINE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS CAUSING OUR REPUTATION  
 "ONCE MORE IN DOUBT - MINISTER PORRAS

---

"PANALEGA - LONDON - NUMBER 218 STOP REFERENCE YOURS 40  
 "INFORM YOU GOVERNMENT HAS INSTRUCTED MINISTER PARIS  
 "INVESTIGATE CASE SHIP PADUCAH ALSO SHIP NORTHLANDS  
 "ACCUSED ATTEMPTS ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES STOP AWAITING  
 "INFORMATION MINISTER PARIS TAKE CORRESPONDING ACTION -  
 "EXTERIORES

-----

"EXTERIORES - PANAMA - NUMBER 45 STOP IN FRIENDLY  
 "CONFERENCE WITH MINISTER BEVIN TODAY HE ASKED ME TO  
 "ASK OUR GOVERNMENT TAKE NECESSARY STEPS AGAINST SHIPS  
 "PADUCAH AND NORTHLANDS ENGAGED ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES AND  
 "SMUGGLING JEWS PALESTINE STOP THESE ACCUSATIONS FOUNDED  
 "STOP IGNORING IF MINISTER PARIS INVESTIGATED CASE BUT  
 "AM OF OPINION GOVERNMENT MUST CANCEL REGISTRATION THESE  
 "SHIPS AND ALL OTHER SHIPS THAT USING OUR FLAG DISCREDIT  
 "OUR COUNTRY AND VIOLATE INTERNATIONAL LAWS - MINISTER  
 "PORRAS

-----

In view that I did not receive any answer to my cablegram  
 No. 45 to our Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, I sent them  
 my cablegram No. 47, which I take the liberty to translate:

"EXTERIORES - PANAMA - NUMBER 47 STOP - RECEIVED NOTE  
 "FOREIGN OFFICE IN WHICH WITH MANY DETAILS THEY PROVE  
 "PANAMA SHIPS PADUCAH AND NORTHLANDS PREPARE EMBARK  
 "BLACK SEA PORTS ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT JEWS TO PALESTINE  
 "STOP MINISTER BEVIN INSISTS THIS PROBLEM IS URGENT  
 "AND EXCEPTIONALLY IMPORTANT STOP HE ASKS ME TO TAKE

/NECESSARY

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

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Registry  
No. E 9082/84/31

~~Top Secret.~~  
~~Secret.~~  
Confidential.  
~~Restricted.~~  
~~Open.~~

J.B.

*cc.*  
Draft.

To:-

Mr. Greenway,

PANAMA

(from

Mr. Burrows.)

314  
9110

*Panama note of Sept. 30  
Morales' letters in E 9082-29110  
P. 10/11*

*N.A. Sept first  
J.B. Oct. 10*

*M5 agree*

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

14 October

*51 14 AM  
- 14 AM*

Dear Greenway,

I enclose a copy of the note we have received from the Panamanian Minister in reply to our note number E8450/84/31 of September 17th, of which a copy has already gone to you. This should be read in conjunction with the letters of *the 1st of October* from the Panamanian Consul-General to Beith of which I also enclose *copies*.

It would seem that the Panamanian Legation and Consulate-General are not exactly a "happy ship". The facts are briefly as follows. The Eastern Department have been in touch with Morales, the Consul-General, for some months in regard to Panamanian ships suspected of being involved in Jewish illegal immigration. Morales has been distinctly co-operative both in the matter of suspect ships in British ports (which is specifically his own business) and also on the general question. In the case of one or two suspect ships in British ports upon which administrative delays have been imposed, Morales had naturally received complaints from the owners which he points out that he was forced by routine procedure to pass on to Panama. We are willing to believe, however, that he has not pressed these complaints, and he claims to have made searching enquiries of the masters of *any* suspect ships which we may have drawn to his attention.

/ Until

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

3148 Wt. 26469/137 100m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(83054) Wt. 14086/147 75,000 6/47 A. & E. W. Ltd. Gp. 685

Registry  
No. L9082/84/31 J.E.C.

~~Top Secret~~  
Secret.  
Confidential.  
~~Restricted~~  
Open.

Draft.  
Panamanian Minister  
London

P. 10/14  
N.A. Defi first

Copy to.  
Mr. Greenway  
H.A. Minister  
Panama

53

14<sup>2</sup> Oct.

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to Y.E.'s note no. LFO/194 of the 30<sup>th</sup> about the two Panamanian ships "PAUCAN" and "NORTHWINDS", engaged in the Jewish illegal immigration traffic to Palestine.

2. I am grateful for the assurances of support contained in Y.E.'s note under reference. Unfortunately both these ships have since arrived in Palestine waters still flying the Panamanian flag and carrying between them approximately 4000 Jewish illegal immigrants. I have now to draw Y.E.'s attention to two further Panamanian ships, the "PAN YORK" and the "PAN CRESCENT", both of which are expected to embark Jewish illegal immigrants from Black Sea ports in the very near future.

3.

[Here insert from (A) to (B) of letter to Sr. Morales in L 9159]

She left Marseilles on the next day, having taken on 148 tons of provisions and passed through the

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4. The ownership and connexions of this ship are themselves sufficient to arouse suspicions, which have been strengthened by her subsequent activities. She left New York on the 22nd May, ostensibly for Istanbul. In actual fact, however, after calling at Genoa, she arrived at Marseilles on the 4th July, where her presence attracted the attention of the French police. From Marseilles she sailed to Safi in French Morocco, where she loaded a cargo of phosphates, ostensibly for Antwerp. Once again she belied her declared intentions and discharged her cargo at Rouen, sailing thence on the 21st September for Bordeaux, where she arrived on the 24th September, announced her destination as Philipville (Algeria) and sailed again on the 28th September. She passed the Straits of Gibraltar on the 28th September, giving her destination as Oran, but turned North and arrived at Marseilles on the 2nd October. She left Marseilles on the next day, having taken on 148 tons of provisions and entered the Black Sea on the 9th October.

5. The "Pan Crescent's" size, owner and agents are the same as those of the "Pan York", though a notoriously extreme Zionist, Paul Schulman, has been acting as her agent in Venice, where she arrived on the 1st August. The crew which had brought her from Panama was dismissed as soon as she arrived (a feature common to most ships engaged in the illegal immigration traffic) a new crew was engaged by Schulman. She left Venice on the 25th September, ostensibly for Casablanca, but sailed instead to Constanza, arriving on the 1st October. She is expected to embark up to 8,000 Jewish illegal immigrants from the same region as the "Indoah" and the "Northlands". Bunks are now being installed and advance parties of Jews have already reached Constanza. Embarkation will probably take place within the next few days.

6. I, therefore, have the honour to invite Your Excellency to bring these facts to the attention of the

/ Government

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Group ..... *FO* .....

Class ..... *371* .....

Piece ..... *61849* .....

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Department of origin under Section 3 (4)

of the Public Records Act, 1958

*E9101/84/31*

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Reference:

**FO 371 / 61849**

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382

E

58

E 9107

PALESTINE

(2 OCT 1948)

Registry Number

E 9107/84/31.

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

L. Kelly

Dated

Angora

Received in Registry

185

1st  
2 -

Get information ships.  
Refer to E 9001/84/31. Redwood & Portland  
was output of shipping agent at 210 miles  
200 miles. Montreal Convention. Fleet  
ship ship for port of Beirut port, and port  
loss as if the port of the shipping agent  
to, 197. The success ground for detection.  
to, 197. N. P. (1948).

Last Paper.

9101.

(Minutes.)

Please see E 9070/48/6 and  
action Division.

References.

*[Signature]*  
3/10

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, 9.9.P.  
Oct.

(Action completed.)

GEM 2/10

(Index.)

*[Signature]*

Next Paper.

E 9107  
10

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: FO 371 / 61849

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Green 59

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on].

Cypher/OT: CABINET DISTRIBUTION  
FROM ANGORA TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Sir D. Kelly.  
No. 685.

D. 3.45 p.m. 1st October 1947.

1st October 1947.

R. 6.50 p.m. 1st October 1947.

Repeated to Bucharest,  
Moscow,  
Sofia,  
Commander in Chief Mediterranean.

0:0:0:0

IMPORTANT.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Your telegram 823.

My telegram 676 said that the Paducah and the Northland "passed Istanbul (Constantinople) without stopping". They were subjected to sanitary visit at sea in the Straits under the Montreux Convention, and Admiralty were informed by N.A. of their passage. Neither ship therefore put in at Turkish port; and port dues owing on previous voyage were paid by the shipping agent on September 27th afternoon, thus removing this ground for detention.

2. This morning I expressed regret to the Secretary General of Ministry of Foreign Affairs that action had not been found possible under Turkish regulations corresponding to the international conventions for safety of life at sea (to which Turkey is not a party) and pressed for such action in the event of the Pan Crescent returning through the Straits. I said you had been naturally disappointed in view of his previous favourable reaction. Secretary General re-affirmed his complete sympathy and said that he had pressed the competent department to "find some trick" for holding the ships even though they were in order under the Montreux Convention but the authorities concerned were frankly afraid.

3. He said that if they invoked the pretext of safety at sea it would not (repeat not) be logical to send them back into the Black Sea. He volunteered he would investigate the alternative possibility of stopping such ships coming into [grps. omtd.] about the approach of the Pan York.

Foreign Office please pass to Bucharest, Moscow and Commander in Chief Mediterranean as my telegrams Nos. 13, 21 and 2 respectively. /Repeated....

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Reference: **FO 371/61849**







383

E

60

19 7

PALESTINE

E 3710  
(2 4 2 2)

Registry Number E9110/84/31

FROM A Morales

No. Panama Canal

Dated

Received in Registry 1 Oct 2 ~

Legal Immigrant Ships.

In awaiting report on two new vessels in order to take drastic steps to stop them in time, will not fail to forward copy of Telegram to well need to his fact. on receipt of letter.

Last Paper

9107

(Minutes.)

Please see also E 9082 and minutes thereon.

References

*Rable*  
(J. E. CABLE)  
3/10

(Print)

(How disposed of)

Wpt. Senor Morales  
Panamanian  
Legation  
from in berth  
Oct 7

I think he has been brought with us and so do mis we can give him a fairly guarded assurance that we appreciate his efforts. See also E 9082

NA Dept.

SD out. 3

1 1/2  
4/8

Draft. Resubmit also ppe.

SD out. 6

(Action completed)

*G. E. C. 10*

(Index)

*9/10/46*

Next Paper

E 9118

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385

1947

E

66

E 3758

PALESTINE

OCT 1947

Registry Number

E 9158/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Mr. Stenlake Bennett

Dated

Sept 14

Received in Registry

12.44

2.01

2

IAN CROCKETT

Ref to 1011 1947 (E 9011/84/31) from Mr Bennett on re: not Bulgarian notes held & follow up re: a 4 person visit to admit foreign affairs as set out. First very good and importance of stopping the illegal traffic. Government of Israel.

Last Paper.

9118

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

6, I.S.P. / Oct. 6

(Action completed.)

IEM 7/10

(Index)

[Handwritten marks]

Next Paper.

915-9

(Minutes.)

I think Mr. Stenlake Bennett might have pointed out that the issue of Persian, Syrian, Lebanese, Turkish or Egyptian visas to Jews (as reported in his telegram no. 1237) was so obviously improbable as to arouse immediate suspicion in anyone whose eyes were not deliberately closed. The choice of these particular countries suggests an impudent confidence and a certain sense of humour on the part of the Jews. I doubt, however, whether the point is worth making now.

[Signature] (C. ECABLE) 3/10

W.D.H. / Southern Dept.

Am afraid its almost impossible to stop this traffic from the Black Sea

Best. 3

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Reference: FO 371/61849

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM SOFIA TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Sterndale Bennett.  
No. 1244.

D. 7.10 p.m. 2nd October 1947.

2nd October 1947.

R. 8.55 p.m. 2nd October 1947.

Repeated to Bucharest,  
Angora,  
Moscow,  
Jerusalem,  
Alexandria,  
British Middle East Office, Cairo.

Commander in Chief Mediterranean.

0:0:0:0

IMMEDIATE.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Your telegrams No. 1012 to Bucharest and 823 to Angora and my telegram 1237.

Since "Pan Crescent" is so near Bulgarian waters I decided to follow up note verbale with personal visit to Minister for Foreign Affairs on October 2nd to stress the urgency and importance of stopping this illegal traffic. I emphasised that [? grp. omtd.] the question was not primarily Anglo-Bulgarian I was entitled to ask for co-operation since it was an international responsibility to avoid any action which might prejudice the solution of the Palestine problem now before United Nations or affect status quo pending the solution. To my direct question whether the Jews on board "Paducah" and "Northlands" had embarked with the consent of the Bulgarian authorities or in defiance of instructions issued according to deportation note verbale of September 2nd (paragraph 1 of my telegram 1126) Minister for Foreign Affairs said that the Bulgarian Government had been willing to prevent embarkation of Jews for Palestine but were stalled with the statement that persons embarked had valid visas for other countries. I pointed out that this was all part of the racket. Minister for Foreign Affairs harped [ grp. undec. ? thereafter] on the difficulty of refusing facilities for ships and the necessity for keeping within international practice. I urged the necessity of exceptional measures and more particularly of checking up on the destinations of travellers on suspected ships. When Minister for Foreign Affairs said that this /would....



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Reference:

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386

E

69

E 3759

1947

PALESTINE

OCT 1947

Registry Number

E 9159/84/31

FROM

70 minutes

No.

W. Beith

Dated

Oct. 2.

Received in Registry

~ 3.

Illegal Immigrant Ships.

Give particulars of "Pan York" and "Pan Crescent" suspected of complicity in Jewish illegal immigrant traffic.

Last Paper

9158

(Minutes.)

Now see E 9082 and

action thereon.

Jy 6/10

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

apt. Inar Morales  
Paranavian Consul  
from W. Beith  
Oct. 4

(Action completed)

[Signature] 10/10/47

(Index)

[Signature] 9/16/48

Next Paper

E 9183

38538

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

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"SAN MIGUEL", "ULVA", "SAN ELIPO",  
"GUARDIAN", "ANAL", "PRESIDENT WARFIELD",  
"BRUNA" and "LUCIANO", all of which  
reached Palestine waters with Jewish  
illegal immigrants on board.

3. The ownership and connections  
of this ship are themselves sufficient  
to arouse suspicions, which have been  
strengthened by her subsequent  
activities. She left New York on  
the 22nd May, ostensibly for Istanbul.  
In actual fact, however, ~~she arrived~~  
<sup>after calling</sup> at Genoa, she arrived at Marseilles  
on the 4th of July, where her  
presence ~~aroused~~ attracted the  
attention of the French police. From  
Marseilles she sailed to SAFI in  
French Morocco, where she loaded  
a cargo of phosphates, ostensibly for  
Antwerp. Once again she ~~arrived~~  
at a ~~place~~ believed her ~~arrangements~~ declared intentions  
and discharged her cargo at  
Rouen, sailing thence on the 21st  
of September for Bordeaux, where she  
arrived on the 24th, announced her  
destination as Philippeville (Algeria)  
and sailed again on the 25th. She  
passed the Straits of Gibraltar on  
the 28th, giving her destination as  
Oran, but turned north and ~~at~~  
~~was~~ ~~early~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~morning~~ ~~of~~ ~~2nd~~ ~~October~~,  
was off the south coast of France  
/arrived ~~handily~~

70A

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(83854) Wt. 14696/147 75,000 6/47 A. & E. W. Ltd. Gp. 685

Registry  
No.

Top Secret.  
Secret.  
Confidential.  
Restricted.  
Open.

Draft.

arrived at Marseilles <sup>on 2nd October</sup> ~~in some part in the~~ ~~same~~

~~secretly~~ ~~making~~ ~~for~~ Marseilles / 71

A party of legal immigrants to Palestine is due to embark there within the next few days, and it seems possible that the "PAN YORK" may attempt to embark illegal immigrants ~~under cover~~ at the same time, using the presence of the legal Jewish immigrants as a screen for the assembly of an illegal party.

4. The ~~fact~~ ~~also~~ ~~and~~ suspicious character of this ship's activities was particularly noticeable during her stay at Rouen, where she was visited by a number of Jews and equipment of an unusual nature (described as "cattle fittings" but probably intended for bundles etc.) was releas.

5. The "PAN CRESCENTS" <sup>size,</sup> owner and agents are the same as those of the "PAN YORK", though a notoriously extreme Zionist, PAUL SCHULMAN, has been acting as her agent in Italy, Venice, where she arrived on the 1st August. The crew which had brought her from Panama was dismissed as soon as she arrived (a feature / common

1	2	3	4	5	6
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				2	

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61849**

common to most ships engaged in the illegal immigration traffic) a new crew was engaged by SCHULMAN. She left Venice on the 25<sup>th</sup> September, ostensibly for Barcelona, but sailed instead to ~~the Black Sea~~ <sup>Constantinople</sup>, arriving on ~~the 1<sup>st</sup> October~~ <sup>1<sup>st</sup> October</sup>. ~~She is expected to~~ <sup>She is expected to</sup> ~~carry up to~~ <sup>carry up to</sup> 8000 Jewish illegal immigrants from the same ~~either Bulgaria or Rumania~~ <sup>region as the "Padresch" and the "Northlands"</sup>.

~~As you will be aware, the two ships "PADRESCH" and "NORTHLANDS", withdrawal of whose Panamanian registration was requested by the H.M. Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in his note of the 17<sup>th</sup> September (of which I enclose a copy) are now on their way to Palestine with approximately 4000 Jewish illegal immigrants on board. While I have little hope that withdrawal of registration from the "PAN CRESCENT" will noticeably modify the unhelpful uncooperative attitude of the Bulgarian authorities, induce the Bulgarian or Rumanian Govt. to cease conniving at their connivance in this traffic, I feel sure that you will be~~

~~This action may well carry considerable weight with the Turkish Govt. whose cooperation has been requested by H.M. G. / Jm~~

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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 Reference: **FO 371 / 61849**

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(33654) Wt. 14696/147 75,000 6/47 A. & E. W. Ltd. Gp. 685

Registry  
No.

Top Secret.  
Secret.  
Confidential.  
Restricted.  
Open.

Draft.

In any case, I feel <sup>certain</sup> ~~sure~~ that  
72 (the "PAN AMERICAN"  
(you will be)  
convinced to ensure that, if she  
does reach Palestine waters, it will  
she does not do so under the  
~~Panamamian flag.~~

The "PAN YORK" ~~business~~  
appears to be making for Marseilles  
and we have reason to believe  
that withdrawal of registry may  
have <sup>some</sup> ~~rise~~ influence on the  
French authorities. I should be  
very grateful, therefore, if you  
~~would recommend~~ felt able to  
advise your Govt. to withdraw  
Panamamian registry from ~~these~~  
~~ships~~ both these very dangerous  
ships.

I enclose a copy of  
the Note to your Legation  
of which I spoke to you,  
for ease of reference. I am  
sure we can rely on the  
Panamamian authorities to  
cooperate in denying their  
flag to this traffic

JB Oct. 2

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

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14 AF  
73  
OUT FILE

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

4th October, 1947.

No. E 9159/84/31.

IMMEDIATE  
CONFIDENTIAL

When you called at the Foreign Office on 30th September, I promised to let you have in writing our grounds for suspecting the two ships "Pan York" and "Pan Crescent" of complicity in the Jewish illegal immigration traffic to Palestine.

2. The "Pan York" is a ship of 4,570 gross registered tons, owned by the F. and B. Shipping Company of Panama. The New York agent (and probably the controlling force) of this Company is a certain Nathan (or Nathaniel) Cohen of the Nautical Shipping and Servicing Company, who appears to be identical with the Nathaniel Cohen who controlled the activities of the Weston Trading Company, which owned the "Trade Winds", "President Warfield" and "Northlands" and which is now in the process of liquidation. The Marseilles agents of this ship are Ginesta and Company, who have also acted for the "San Dimitrio", "Merica", "San Miguel", "Ulva", "San Filippo", "Guardian", "Anal", "President Warfield", "Bruna" and "Luciano", all of which reached Palestine waters with Jewish illegal immigrants on board.

3. The ownership and connexions of this ship are themselves sufficient to arouse suspicions, which have been strengthened by her subsequent activities. She left New York on the 22nd May, ostensibly for Istanbul. In actual fact, however, after calling at Genoa, she arrived at Marseilles on the 4th July, where her presence /attracted

Senor Don Eusebio A. Morales,  
Panamanian Legation,  
123 Warnford Court,  
Throgmorton Street, E.C.2.

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

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attracted the attention of the French police. From Marseilles she sailed to Safi in French Morocco, where she loaded a cargo of Phosphates, ostensibly for Antwerp. Once again she belied her declared intentions and discharged her cargo at Rouen, sailing thence on the 21st September for Bordeaux, where she arrived on the 24th, announced her destination as Philipville (Algeria) and sailed again on the 25th. She passed the Straits of Gibraltar on the 28th, giving her destination as Oran, but turned North and arrived at Marseilles on 2nd October. A party of legal immigrants to Palestine is due to embark there within the next few days, and it seems possible that the "Pan York" may attempt to embark illegal immigrants at the same time, using the presence of the legal Jewish immigrants as a screen for the assembly of an illegal party.

4. The suspicious character of this ship's activities was particularly noticeable during her stay at Rouen, where she was visited by a number of Jews and equipment of an unusual nature (described as "cattle fittings" but probably intended for bunks etc.) was ordered.

5. The "Pan Crescent's" size, owner and agents are the same as those of the "Pan York", though a notoriously extreme Zionist, Paul Schulman, has been acting as her agent in Venice, where she arrived on the 1st August. The crew which had brought her from Panama was dismissed as soon as she arrived (a feature common to most ships engaged in the illegal immigration traffic) a new crew was engaged by Schulman. She left Venice on the 25th September, ostensibly for Casablanca, but sailed instead to Constanza, arriving on 1st October. She is expected to embark up to 8000 Jewish illegal immigrants from the same region as the "Paducah" and the "Northlands".

I enclose a copy of the Note to your Legation of which I spoke to you, for case of reference. I am sure we can rely on the Panamanian authorities to

/co-operate

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61849**









They have accordingly requested His Majesty's Government to furnish them with proof that these vessels are engaged in the illegal immigration traffic.

6. In the light of the facts given above, I am sure that Your Excellency will agree that a compelling case has been made out against these two ships. I am well aware of the importance attached by the Government of Panama to the growth of their Mercantile Marine and I would not request the withdrawal of Panamanian registration from these vessels unless I was very sure that the suspicion with which their activities are regarded by His Majesty's Government was fully justified. As you will readily appreciate, formal proof that a ship is engaged in this traffic can never be provided until she actually arrives in Palestine waters with Jewish illegal immigrants on board, by which time any attempt at intervention would be useless. All that can be done at that juncture is to impound the vessel in accordance with the provisions of Palestine law.

7. I accordingly have the honour to invite you to convey my views to the Government of Panama and to request them, as a matter of urgency and importance, to consider whether they would not now be justified in at once withdrawing Panamanian registry from the "Paducah" and the "Northlands".

I have the honour to be, with the highest consideration,  
Your Excellency's obedient Servant,  
(For the Secretary of State)

(Signed) B.A.B. Burrows.

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

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388

E

E 9201

80

PALESTINE

4 OCT 1947

Registry Number

E 9201/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

14 May

Dated

Marseilles

Received in Registry

166  
300at  
4

SS PAN YORK  
Rfr Marseilles of 165 (E)  
Pan York left Marseilles at 1800 hrs 3/10  
normally for SFAX with 148 tons provisions  
of American origin, 70 passengers on board,  
coastguard vessel spotted, Marseilles, Malta  
informed.

Last Paper.

9183

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, 9.9. P.  
Oct. 9

Tel Ankara 851  
Rptd Algiers 744  
Rome 2111  
Tunisi 56  
Oct. 6.

8, 9.9. P. Oct. 9, D.T.O.

(Action completed)

(Index)

J. E. 166 9/10

[Signature]

Next Paper.

9218

(Minutes.)

Telegram sent to Rome, Tunis, Algiers,  
Ankara, Beirut, and Sofia warning them  
about this ship. C. in C. Med. will let  
them know her further movements as required.  
she is being shadowed by H.M.S. Chivalrous.

[Signature] 4/10

Telegram sent to some posts  
(near Paris and Panama) informing them of  
ship's latest position.

[Signature] 6/10

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Reference: FO 371/61849

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80A

tel Rome 2106  
Paris ) 55  
Rtd Algiers 73  
Angora 848  
Bucharest 1047  
Paris 1880(S)  
Panama 107  
Sofia 135F  
Oct 4

S. P. P.  
Oct 9

tel Angora 855  
Bucharest 1067  
Sofia 1374  
Oct 7.

S. P. P.  
Oct 17  
on E 9218/84/31  
tel Angora 864  
Bucharest 1080  
Sofia 1384  
Oct 8

S. P. P.  
Oct 17  
(on E 9218/84/31)  
tel Bucharest 1083  
Sofia 1386  
Oct 9.

S. P. P.  
Oct 17  
on E 9218/84/31  
tel Bucharest 1089  
Sofia 1394  
Oct 10

S. P. P.  
Oct 17  
(on E 9218/84/31)

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Registry  
No. E9201/84/30

J.E.C.

~~Top Secret.~~  
~~Secret.~~  
~~Confidential.~~  
~~Restricted.~~  
~~Open.~~

Draft.  
Angora No. --- 851  
Bulghesi No. --- 1053  
Sofia No. --- 1357

Telegram.

No. ....  
(Date) 6/10

Repeat to:—  
Algiers No. --- 74  
Rome No. --- 2111  
Tunis No. --- 56

En Clair.  
Code.  
Cypher.

Distribution:—

Departmental NO. 1

Copies to:—

I.I.P.

OUT FILE

F. O.,

6/10 194 .  
Despatched 1.5 P M.

[En Clair]

My telegram to Rome no. 2106  
[of 4th October: Jewish illegal immigration]  
Ship passed & east through  
straits of Messina this morning.

*[Signature]*  
6/10

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

3148 Wt. 26469/137 50m 9/46 (51) F.S.S.

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Reference:—

FO 371/61849

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OUT FILE 83

E9201/84/31  
Restricted.

En Clair.

DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO ANGORA

No. 851

6th October, 1947.

D: 1.5 p.m. 6th October, 1947.

Repeated to Algiers No.74

Rome No.2111

Tunis No.56

My telegram to Rome No.2106 [of 4th October:  
Jewish illegal immigration].

Ship passed east through Straits of Messina this  
morning.

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61849



Registry  
No. E9201/84/31  
J.R.C.

Top Secret.  
Secret.  
Confidential.  
Restricted.  
Open.

Draft.

ROME

TUNIS

10/2106  
10-55

Telegram.

No.

(Date) Oct 4th

Repeat to:-  
Algiers No 73  
Angora No 848  
Bucharest No 1047  
Paris (raining) No 1880 SAN.  
Panama No 107  
Sofia No 1351  
c. in c. Med.  
(via Admalty)

Admty. concn

~~En Clair.~~

Code.  
Cypher.

Distribution :-

Departmental No. 1

Copies to :-

I.I.P.

OUT FILE

F. O.,

84

Despatched 6 a M.  
5/10 1947

~~Immediate~~  
~~Confidential~~

"PAN YORK" (whose particulars are contained in fortnightly list of suspect shipping) left Marseilles early on evening of 3rd October, ostensibly for SFAX. She carries 148 tons of food and may, therefore, intend to embark illegal immigrants in the very near future.

2. Her position at 0900 hours 4th October was 42 degrees NORTH (7 degrees EAST), when she was heading South-East. She is being shadowed by H.M.S. *Chivalrous*.

3. This ship is very dangerous, being capable of embarking 8000 Jews and large enough to stand a chance of breaking through naval cordon to beach herself on Palestine shore. If reports received from c. in c. Med. suggest she is making for a port within your jurisdiction, you should warn local authorities and request them to take precautions against embarkation and to deny ship

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

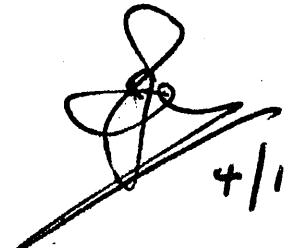
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

ship fuel and facilities.

84A

  
4/10

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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Reference: FO 371 / 61849

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85  
OUT FILE

E9201/84/51  
Confidential  
Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO ROME NO.2106

TUNIS NO. 55

4th October 1947 D. 4 a.m. 5th October 1947

Repeated to Algiers No. 73  
Angora No. 848  
Bucharest No. 1047  
Paris No. 1880 Saving  
Panama No. 107  
Sofia No. 1351  
Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean

IMMEDIATE  
CONFIDENTIAL

"Pan York" (whose particulars are contained in Fortnightly List of Suspect Shipping) left Marseilles empty on evening of 3rd October, ostensibly for Sfax. She carries 148 tons of food and may, therefore, intend to embark illegal immigrants in the very near future.

2. Her position at 0900 hours 4th October was 42 degrees North 7 degrees East, when she was heading South-East. She is being shadowed by H.M.S. Chivalrous.

3. This ship is very dangerous, being capable of embarking 8,000 Jews and large and fast enough to stand a chance of breaking through naval cordon to beach herself on Palestine shore. If reports received from Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean suggest she is making for a port within your jurisdiction, you should warn local authorities and request them to take precautions against embarkation and to deny ship fuel and facilities.

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Reference: FO 371/61849



Registry  
No. 29202/84/31

J.E.C.

86

Top Secret.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Secret.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Confidential.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Restricted.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Open.	<input type="checkbox"/>

OUT FILE

F. O.,

194

Despatched 11/10 11:28 P.M.

Draft.

ANGORA No 855 ✓  
 BUCHAREST No 1067 ✓  
 SOFIA No 1374 ✓

Enclair

Telegram.

No. \_\_\_\_\_

(Date) OCT. 7<sup>th</sup>

Repeat to:—

Rome (Italy) No 296 ✓  
 SAV:

My telegram to Rome no. 2106  
 [of 4<sup>th</sup> October: Jewish illegal immigration]  
 Ship's position at mid-day  
 7<sup>th</sup> October was 36 degrees NORTH  
 21 degrees EAST

*[Signature]*  
7/10

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

En Clair.  
~~Code.~~  
~~Cypher.~~

Distribution:—

Departmental no. 1

Copies to:—

I.I.P.

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87

OUT FILE

B9201/84/51

Restricted

En Clair

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO ANGORA NO. 855  
BUCHAREST NO. 1067  
SOFIA NO. 1874

7th October 1947. D. 11.28 p.m. 7th October 1947  
Repeated to Rome No. 296 Saving.

My telegram to Rome No. 2106 [of 4th October:  
Jewish illegal immigration].

Ship's position at mid-day 7th October was  
36 degrees North 21 degrees East.

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FO 371 / 61849

Registry  
No. E9201/84/31

Top Secret.
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Restricted.
Open.

J.R.C.

OUT FILE

88

F. O.,

9/10 194

Despatched

11-46 M.

Draft.

Angora No. 864

Bucharest No. 1080

Sofia No. 1384

Telegram.

No. ~~~~~

(Date) Oct-8.

Repeat to:—

En blanc

My telegram to Rome  
no. 2106 [of 4<sup>th</sup> October: Jewish  
illegal immigration]

Ship's position at 1400  
hours 8<sup>th</sup> October was 39  
degrees NORTH ~~and~~ 24 degrees  
EAST.

*[Signature]*  
8/10

En Clair.

Code.

Cypher.

Distribution:—

Departmental no. 1

Copies to:—

I. I. P.

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OUT FILE 89

E9201/84/31  
En Clair  
Restricted.

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO HIS  
MAJESTY'S REPRESENTATIVES AT:

ANGORA NO. 864  
BUCHAREST NO. 1080  
SOFIA NO. 1384

October 8th, 1947. D. 11.46.p.m. October 9th,  
1947.

-----oOo-----

My telegram to Rome No. 2106 [of 4th October:  
Jewish illegal immigration].

Ship's position at 1400 hours 8th October was  
39 degrees north 24 degrees east.

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61849

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Registry  
No. E9201/84/31

J.E.C.

Top Secret.  
Secret.  
Confidential.  
Restricted.  
Open.

105 87 90  
**OUT FILE**

F. O.,

110 194

~~Despatched~~

6 25 P M.

Draft.

~~ANGORA No 7083~~  
~~BUCHARST No 1386~~  
~~SOFIA No 1386~~

Important  
En Clair

Telegram.

No.                       
(Date) Oct 9<sup>th</sup>

Repeat to :-

Angora No - ~~867~~  
c. in c. Med.  
via Admiralty

my telegram to Rome no. 2106  
[of 4<sup>th</sup> October: Jewish illegal  
immigration]

Ship entered Dardanelles  
at 2330 hours 8<sup>th</sup> October.

*J.S.*  
9/10

En Clair.  
Code.  
Cypher.

Distribution :-

Departmental No. 1

Copies to :-

I.I.P.

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Reference: **FO 371/61849**

OUT LE

E9201/84/31

Restricted

[EN CLAIR]

91

DEPARTMENTAL No: 1

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO BUCHAREST No: 1083

SOFIA No: 1386

9th October 1947

D. 6.25.p.m. 9th October 1947

Repeated to Angers No: 889

Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean (via Admiralty)

IMPORTANT

My telegram to Rome No: 2106 [of 4th October:  
Jewish illegal immigration].

Ship entered Dardanelles at 2330 hours 8th  
October.

X:X:X:

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

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RESTRICTED

IN

92

14 OCT 1947

WARNING: This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message and the text must first be paraphrased if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

091825A/October

To Bucharest No.1083  
Sofia No.1386

Date 9.10.47.

P.L.

CORRECTION

From Foreign Office.

Repeated to Angora No.869  
Commander in Chief Mediterranean (via  
Admiralty)

IMPORTANT.

E9201/84/31.

My telegram to Rome No.2106 (of 4th October:  
Jewish illegal immigration).

Ship entered Dardanelles at 2530 hours 8th  
October.

091825

Received in Admiralty at 1930/10, passed  
to C. in C. Med. under DTG 101951.

Advance copies sent D.C., R.C.

1st.Lord.  
1st.S.L.(3)  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S.  
Naval Secretary  
Secretary  
U.S.S.  
O.D.(8)  
D.C.(2)  
M.(8)  
D.N.I.(5)  
D.of P.(2)  
D.of P.(0)  
C.H.I.(2)

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:

FO 371/61849

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Registry  
No. E 9201/84/31

Top Secret
Secret
Confidential
Restricted
Open

Draft.

Buchment No 1089

Defia No 1394

Telegram.

No. \_\_\_\_\_

(Date) Oct 10<sup>th</sup>

Repeat to:—

En Clair.

Code.

Cypher.

Distribution:—

Departmental No. 1

Copies to:—

I.I.P.

OUT FILE

93

F. O.,

10/10 194

Despatched 1:58 pm M.

En Clair

my telegram no. 21016 to Rome  
 of 4<sup>th</sup> October: Jewish illegal immigration  
 ship entered Black Sea afternoon  
 of 9<sup>th</sup> October.

*[Signature]*  
 10/10

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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Reference: FO 371/61849

OUT FILE

E.9201/84/31.

94

Restricted.

En Clair

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO BUCHAREST NO. 1089.

SOFIA NO. 1394.

10th October, 1947.

D: 1.53 p.m. 10th October, 1947.

My telegram No. 2106 to Rome [of 4th October: Jewish  
Illegal Immigration].

Ship entered Black Sea afternoon of 9th October.

@@@

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

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890  
389

E

95

PALESTINE

1007

Registry  
Number

E9218/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

M. C. Clarke

Dated

Paris

Received  
in Registry

936  
4 Oct  
0

SS. PAN YORK

Let of Oct. 3. from board Messells report  
"Pan York" arrived - ballast and loading  
large quantity of food - certain report  
that ship has refuelled at Messells not  
yet confirmed.

Last Paper.

9201

(Minutes.)

*[Signature]*  
6/10

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, 92 P.  
✓ Oct. 17

(Action  
completed.)

*[Signature]*  
6/10

(Index.)

*[Signature]*  
9/10

Next Paper.

9220

32008 F.O.P.

1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	

Reference: FO 371 / 61849

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Cypher/OTP.

20 e please - 14:15  
3 16 00 96

ADMIRALTY.

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

F. 2216

6 OCT 1947

Mr. Ashley Clarke.  
No. 936.

D. 4.24 p.m. 4th October 1947.

4th October 1947.

R. 5.30 p.m. 4th October 1947.

IMPORTANT.

SECRET.

Please pass following to Admiralty for  
Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean repeated Chivalrous.

From B.N.A. Paris.

Telegram of October 3rd from Consul  
Marseilles reports Pan York arrived in ballast and  
loading large quantity of food in [gp. undec.  
cartons].

Report that ship has also refuelled at  
Marseilles not yet confirmed.

W:W:W:W

OCT 6 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

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Reference: FO 371 / 61849

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297 390

E

97

1947

PALESTINE

E 9220

18 OCT 1947

Registry Number

E9220/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

M. Kelly Clarke

Dated

Paris

Received in Registry

937  
4 Oct  
6 -

SS PAN YORK

'Pan York' left Marseilles at 1800 hrs Oct-3, nominally for STAX. 10 passengers 148 tons provisions. Shipward slot ship repelled. At Marseilles.

Last Paper.

9218

(Minutes.)

8/10

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, 9, 10  
✓ Oct. 17  
(on E9218/84/31)

(Action completed.)

G. Kelly 4/10

(Index.)

8/10

Next Paper.

9227

32003 F.O.P.

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		1			
				2	

Reference: FO 371 / 61849

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Cypher/OTP.

20 please E 1490 -141-98  
ADMIRALTY.

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

E 9220

Mr. Ashley Clarke.  
No. 987.

D. 5.00 p.m. 4th October 1947.

4th October 1947.

R. 7.55 p.m. 4th October 1947.

IMMEDIATE.

Pass following to Admiralty for Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean and H.M.S. Chivalrous.

[Begins]

To Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean.

Information Admiralty and H.M.S. Chivalrous.

Secret.

Pan York left Marseilles at 1800 Friday October 3rd nominally for Sfax. No passengers. 148 tons provisions. It is confirmed vessel refuelled at Marseilles.

041256/October.

W:W:W:W



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282  
391

1947

E

99

E 9227

PALESTINE

(S. OCT 1947)

Registry Number E9227/84/51

TELEGRAM FROM

No. Lord Gwendolen Washington

Dated Received in Registry 5349 2 Oct 6 -

11th S. "Aqueduct"

Re W toa ltr (E960/84/51) 11th Dept have received additional information re spect- stat ship is about 1110 tons gross. contract directors of applicant firm are J. A. Kelly, George R. Dulin and Stanley Ross, who were attached about week 5th Dept was being raised for decision.

Last Paper.

9220

References.

(Minutes.)

I have consulted M.I. 5 who say they have been unable to find anything against this ship nor do they know any of the people concerned.

Telegram to Washington accordingly.

*J. G.*  
6/10

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

tel. W. Toa. 10246

Rptd, Panama 20, Savings New York 208

✓ Oct 6

8, 9.9.P ✓ Oct 9

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

*G. M. 6/9/10*

*[Signature]*

Next Paper.

9932

1
2
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Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

*Green* E

100

E 327

CYPHER/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Lord Inverchapel. D: 12.20 p.m. 3rd October, 1947.  
No. 5.349.

2nd October, 1947. R: 6.40 p.m. 3rd October, 1947.

Repeated to: Jerusalem,  
Panama, Saving,  
New York (Consul-General) Saving.

IMPORTANT  
SECRET

Chancery letter to Eastern Department July 26th about His Majesty's ship Anguilla.

State Department have received additional information about this application to the effect that ship is about 1110 tons gross and that directors of applicant firm are William A. Cally, George Rycands Oulis and Stelios (Stanley M) Rose all New York. They own one third share each.

2. State Department are now being pressed very hard for a decision and do not feel able to defer to London beyond October 7th. I feel bound to give them an indication of our views soon since they were under no obligation to consult us and did so confidentially in order to help. As ship has not appeared on suspected shipping list I propose to say that we [? grp.omtd. ? have] no objection unless I hear from you to the contrary by date mentioned. I doubt whether State Department will be able to delay decision much longer than that unless there were strong grounds for suspecting the ship which does not appear to be case.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]

@@@

OCT 1947  
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Reference: FO 371/61849



Registry  
No. E 9227/84/31

Top Secret.  
Secret.  
Confidential.  
Restricted.  
Open.

J.E.C.

OUT FILE

F. O.,

101

7/1/1947.

Despatched 10:00 M.

Draft.

Washington

Confidential

Your telegram no. 5349 [of 2nd October]

Telegram.

No. 10246

(Date) 6/1/47

Jewish illegal immigration.

Repeat to:—

~~2058~~  
Payma (Living) No. ---  
H.M. General  
New York No. 38  
208 ✓

We have no information about "ANGUILLA" except that received from you, nor are the companies or individuals concerned known to us. If you no longer seriously suspect this ship, we have no objection to her sale.

We presume that the connexion of Horace M. GRAY both with this boat ship and with the "Lobony Trader" is innocent, as you do not mention it as one of the reasons for your original suspicion. If, therefore, you no longer suspect this ship, we have no objection to her sale.

*[Signature]*  
6/10

En Clair.  
Code.  
Cypher.

Distribution:—

Departmental No. 1

Copies to:—

I.I.P.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

3148 Wt. 26469/137 50m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	1	1	1	1

Reference: FO 371/61849

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E 9227/34/31  
Cypher/OTP  
Confidential

DEPARTMENTAL NO.1

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO WASHINGTON

No. 10246  
6th October, 1947.

D: 10.35 a.m. 7th October, 1947.

Repeated to: Panama No. 20 saving  
New York No. 208

CONFIDENTIAL

Your telegram No. 5349 [of 2nd October].

Jewish illegal immigration.

We have no information about "Anguilla" except that received from you, nor are the companies or individuals concerned known to us.

We presume that the connexion of Horace M. Gray both with this ship and with the "Colony Trader" is innocent, as you do not mention it as a reason for your original suspicion. If therefore, you no longer suspect this ship, we have no objection to her sale.  
G G

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Reference:-

**FO 371 / 61849**

892

E

103

E 9232

1947

PALESTINE

UNRECORDED

Registry Number E 9232/84/31.

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

Consul General  
Lunis  
65  
5 Oct  
6 -

Illegal Immigrant Ships.  
Refer to tel 2106 to Rome (E 9201/84/31) regarding  
General Question of Illegal Immigrant ship with  
diplomatic Secretary, who said 1929 Safety of  
Sea Convention had not been extended to the  
French Empire. He was unaware of the situation  
re feeding line convention. Ask for  
confirmation of terms and classification of  
letter.

Last Paper.

9227

(Minutes.)

now phase re E 9384

9/10/10

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, 9.9.10  
✓ Oct 7

(Action completed.)

9/26/10

(Index.)

9/10/10

Next Paper.

E 9277

\$2008 F.O.P.

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61849**



Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1

E

FROM TUNIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

104

His Majesty's Consul General  
No. 65

D. 9.30 p.m. 5th October, 1947

5th October, 1947  
Repeated to Paris

R. 12.50 a.m. 6th October, 1947

IMMEDIATE  
CONFIDENTIAL

9201/84/11

Your telegram No. 2106. addressed to Rome.

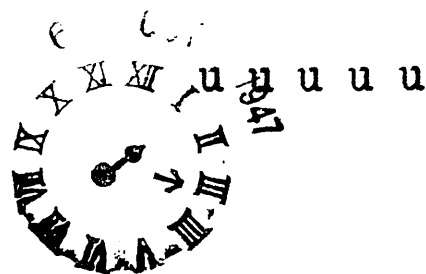
I discussed the general question of illegal immigration ships for Palestine with the diplomatic secretary at Residency General at first routine contact yesterday.

2. He said 1929 Safety at Sea Convention had not been extended to the French Empire (see Article 62). He was unaware of the situation as regards leading line convention.

3. Can you confirm the former and clarify the latter.

Please repeat Paris as my telegram No. 11.

[Repeated to Paris].



E 9232  
6 OCT 1947

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Reference: FO 371 / 61849

795

1947

E

105

E 9277

PALESTINE

7 OCT 1947

Registry Number E 9277/84/31.  
 FROM Embassy  
 No. Paris  
 Dated 8/11  
 Received in Registry 3 Oct  
 Y ~

55 'PAN YORK'  
 Transmitt copy of note to U.S. Foreign Affairs no 902 of 3 Oct. Request French Govt to deny all facilities to 'Pan York' and to ensure that she does not embark illegal immigrants.

Last Paper

9232

(Minutes.)

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

In P.P. Bigbury Bay	070800	7/10
" "	071200	7/10
" "	070401	7/10
" "	070001	7/10
" "	062000	6/10
" "	061600	6/10
<del>Compt</del> Bigbury Bay	071715	7/10
" "	071600	7/10
" "	072000	7/10
" "	080800	8/10
" "	080400	8/10
" "	080001	8/10

*[Signature]* 7/10

In P.P. Surprice	082330	8/10
" Bigbury Bay	082000	8/10
" "	081600	8/10
" "	081400	8/10
" "	081200	8/10

*[Signature]* 9/10

*[Signature]* 10/10

(Action completed)

(Index)

*[Signature]* 8/10

*[Signature]* 9/10/48

Next Paper

9280

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

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No. 841. ✓

106  
E

HIS Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires Paris.  
presents his compliments to H.M.P.S. of S. for F.A.  
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned  
documents.

British.....Embassy,.....  
.....Paris,.....  
.....

3rd October, 1947.

Reference to previous correspondence:

*Description of Enclosure.*

Name and Date.	Subject.
Copy of Note to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, No. 902, of the 3rd October, 1947.	S.S. Pan York.  E 9277 7 OCT 1947

Copied also to Marseilles.

1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	

Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

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**IMMEDIATE.**  
**42/47.**  
**902.**

British Embassy,  
Paris.

3rd October, 1947.

His Majesty's Embassy present their compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and have the honour to draw the Ministry's attention to the arrival at Marseille of the S.S. Pan York, a vessel which is believed to be destined for the transport of illegal immigrants to Palestine.

2. The S.S. Pan York is owned by the F. A. B. Shipping Co., Panama, and the Marseille agents are Ginesta and Co. She is an oil-burning vessel with a gross registered tonnage of 4570 tons, 2754 tons net, and can carry 8250 passengers. When she left Bordeaux on the 24th September, she was believed to be bound for Philippeville, but has now returned to Marseille, where she was inspected by the French Police in August.

3. S.S. Pan York was at Rouen in September, and reports received at that time tended to confirm the suspicions which were already entertained with regard to this vessel. His Majesty's Embassy would accordingly be grateful if the French authorities would deny all facilities to the S.S. Pan York, and take appropriate measures to ensure that she does not embark illegal Jewish immigrants.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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UNCLASSIFIED

105  
071715/October

MESSAGE  
E9277/84/31 INDEXED RECEIVED IN

From BIGBURY BAY

DATE 7.10.47

TIME 17.9

P/L

Addressed C. in C. Med. (M), C. in C. Med. (A)  
Info. Admiralty

URGENT

My position course and speed 36 22 north, 22 35 east. 085. 11.

071715

Advance copy sent to M., D.C.

V.C.H.S.  
O.D. (8)  
D.N.I. (5)  
M. (2)  
D.C.

RA

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Reference: FO 371/61849

**E / / MESSAGE.**

INDEXED

109

*fr. ind.*

IN

5 JUL 1947

*py*

UNCLASSIFIED

071600 /October

DATE. 7.10.47.

FROM. BIGBURY BAY.

RECD. 1640

P/L

TO. C. in C. Med (M). C. in C. Med. (A).  
INFO. Admiralty.

IMMEDIATE

My position course and speed 3622 north 2219 east 110. 1

071600

Advance copy sent to D.C.O.D. M

V.C.N.S.  
D.O. (2)  
O.D. (8)  
M. (8)  
D.R.I. (5)

PTB/76

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Reference:

**FO 371 / 61849**

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INDEXED  
**MESSAGE.**

*How*  
**IN**

110

9 10 47

74

UNCLASSIFIED

072000/October

From BIGBURY BAY

Date 7.10.47.  
Rec'd 2052

P.L.

Addressed C. in C.Med.(A)., C. in C.Med.(M).,  
Info. Admiralty.

IMMEDIATE.

My position course and speed 36 25 North  
23 15 East 030 11.5.

072000

Advance copies sent D.C., R.C.

V.C.N.S.  
O.D.(8)  
D.C.(2)  
D.M.I.(5)  
M.(8)

3/EK

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Reference:

**FO 371 / 61849**

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**MESSAGE.**

*f.w.*

III

**IN**

1947

*py*

UNCLASSIFIED. 080800/October.  
From BIGBURY BAY. Date: 8.10.47.  
Recd. 0911.

P/L.

To C. in C. Med. (A), C. in C. Med. (M).  
Info Admiralty.

IMMEDIATE.

Position, course and speed 38 13 - 24 50. 320. 11.  
080800.

Advance Copies: O.D., M.  
D.N.I., D.C.

V.C.N.S.  
D.N.I.(5).  
O.D.(8).  
M.(8).  
D.C.(2).  
D.S.O.

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Reference:

**FO 371 / 61849**

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**MESSAGE.**

112

*h.m.s.*

**IN**



*PY*

UNCLASSIFIED

080400/October

From BIGBURY BAY

Date 8.10.47  
Received 0537

*P.L.*

Addressed G. in C. Med. (M), G. in C. Med. (A),  
Info. Admiralty.

IMMEDIATE.

My position course and speed 37 37 North 24  
14 East. 040. 11.

080400

Advance copies sent D.M., R.C.

- V.C.N.S.
- O.D. (8)
- M. (8)
- E.C. (2)
- D.N.T. (5)

BT

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MESSAGE

IN

UNCLASSIFIED

080001/October

RECEIVED

E / /

INDEXED

DATE

From

BURGURY BAY

8.10.47

TIME

0126

P/L

Addressed

Info. C. in C. Med. (M), C. in C. Med. (A)  
Admiralty

URGENT

My position course and speed 37 00 north, 23 42 east. 034. 11.

080001

Advance copies sent D.C., R.C.

- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S.
- O.D. (8)
- D.C. (2)
- D.N.I. (5)
- M. (2)
- R.C.

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61849

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UNCLASSIFIED

MESSAGE  
E9277/84/P1

070800A/October. IN 114

RECEIVED

From BIGBURY BAY. 8 OCT 1947

DATE 7.10.47.

TIME 0842.

P/L.

Addressed C. in C. Med. (A), C. in C. Med. (M).  
Reptd. Admiralty.

IMMEDIATE.

My position, course and speed 36 45 North, 20 31  
East. 105. 11.

070800A.

Advance Copy sent  
D.C., M., D.N.I., O.D.

V.C.N.S.  
D.N.I. (5).  
O.D. (8).  
M. (8).  
D.C. (2).

KNS

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Reference:-  
FO 371/61849



MESSAGE.

*p.w.*

115

IN

E / / INDEXED  
8 OCT 1947

P Y

UNCLASSIFIED

071200A/October

From: BIGBURY BAY

Date: 7.10.47

Recd: 1230

P/L

To: C. in C. Mod. (1), C. in C. Mod. (1)  
Info: Admiralty

IMMEDIATE.

By position course and speed 36.30 North,  
21.22 East, 105. 11.

071200A

Advance copy D.C., O.D., M. D.N.I.

V.C.N.S.  
D.C. (2)  
O.D. (8)  
M. (8)  
D.N.I. (5)

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

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PY

# MESSAGE.

*f.w.*  
IN

**E** / / **INDEXED**

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UNCLASSIFIED

**8 OCT 1947**

070401/October.

From BIGBURY BAY.

Date 7.10.47.

Rec'd 0424.

P/L

Addressed C. in C. Med (M) C. in C. Med (A)  
Info. Admiralty.

IMMEDIATE

Position Course and Speed, 36 48 North, 19 33 East,  
110, 11.

070401

Advance copy D.C. and R.C.  
sent 0600/7th.

- V.C.N.S.
- O.D. (3)
- D.C. (2)
- M. (3)
- D.N.I. (5)
- D.S.O.

MD  
32

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**MESSAGE.**

**IN**

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8 OCT 1947

UNCLASSIFIED

From BIGBURY BAY

070001A/October

Date 7.10.47.

Rec'd 0047

P/L

Addressed C. in C. Med. (A), C. in C. Med. (M).,  
Info. Admiralty.

IMMEDIATE

My position course and speed 3703 North 1841 East.  
110. 11.

070001A

A/C D.C. sent 0730

V.C.N.S.  
O.D. (8)  
D.C. (2)  
D.N.I. (5)  
M. (8)  
D.S.O.

MW/27

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**MESSAGE.**

**IN**

**E / / INDEXED**

118

**18 OCT 1947**  
062000A/October.

UNCLASSIFIED  
From BIGBURY BAY.

Date 6.10.47.

Rec'd 2010.

P/L

Addressed C. in C. Med (A) C. in C. Med (M)  
Info. Admiralty,

IMMEDIATE

110. 11 My position Course and Speed. 37 13 North 17 49 East.

062000A

Advance copy D.C. and R.C.  
sent 2037/6th.

V.C.M.C.  
O.B. (3)  
D.C. (2)  
M. (2)  
L.N.I. (5)  
D.S.O.

MD  
32

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**MESSAGE.**

**IN**

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OCT 1947

UNCLASSIFIED

061600A/October

DATE. 6.10.47.

FROM. BIGBURY BAY.

RECD. 1631

F/L

TO. C. in C. Med (A) C. in C. Med (M).  
INFO. Admiralty.

IMMEDIATE

My P.C. and S. 3732 north 1702 east  
110.10.5.

061600A

Advance copy sent to D.C. O.D.  
M. D.N.I.

- V.C.N.S.
- D.C. (2)
- M. (8)
- O.D. (8)
- D.N.I. (5)

76/EK

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**SECRET**

9277/84 8/1  
120

WARNING: This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services  
(\*Note: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad: "O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

OCT 1947

082330/October.

From SURPRISE.

Date 8.10.47.

Recd. 2312.

SECRETEX

Addressed C. in C. Med. Afloat. H.B.N.M.(G). Admiralty.  
Info. C. in C. Med. Malta, COMPAL. C.S.One. BIGBURY BAY.

IMMEDIATE

PAN YORK entered Dardanelles. BIGBURY BAY  
proceeding to Haifa.

082330

Advance copies sent D.C. - R.C.  
2340/8 Oct.

1st Lord.  
1st S.L.(3).  
V.C.N.S.  
A.C.N.S.  
Naval Secretary.  
Secretary.  
U.S.S.

O.D.(8).  
D.C.(2).  
M.(8).  
D.N.I.(5).  
D. of P.(2).  
D. of P.(Q).  
C.N.I.(2).

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MESSAGE.

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IN

E / /

20 OCT 1947

082000A/October.

From BIGBURY BAY.

Date 8.10.47.

Recd. 2107.

P/L

Addressed C. in C. Med. (A), C. in C. Med. (M).  
Info. SURPRISE. C.S.I. Admiralty. H.B.N.M.(G).  
COMPAL.

IMMEDIATE

Position course and speed.

39 45 North  
25 44 East.  
050  
11.5.

082000A

Advance copies sent R.C. D.C.

V.C.N.S.  
O.D. (8)  
M. (8)  
D.N.I. (5)  
D.C.  
R.C.

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Reference: FO 371 / 61849

# MESSAGE.

122

IN

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21 000 W

UNCLASSIFIED

081600A/October.

From BIGBURY BAY.

Date 8.10.47.

Rec'd 1647.

P/L

Addressed C. in C. Med. (A) C. in C. Med. (M)  
Info. C.S.I. Admiralty, H.B.N.M. (G) COMPAL.

IMMEDIATE

My position Course and Speed. 39 19 North,  
24 55 East. 050. 11.

081600A

Advance copies D.N.I. O.D. M. D.C.  
sent 1710.

V.C.N.S.  
D.N.I. (5)  
O.D. (8)  
M. (8)  
D.C. (2)  
D.S.O.

MD  
24

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

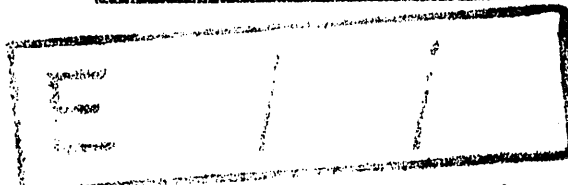
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**MESSAGE.**

**IN**



2 OCT 1947

UNCLASSIFIED.

From. BIGBURY BAY.

081600A/October.

Date. 8-10-47.

Recd. 1647.

P/L.

CORRECTION.

To. SURPRISE, C. in C. Med. (A), C. in C. Med. (M).  
Info. C.S.I., Admiralty, H.B.N.M. (G), Compal.

IMMEDIATE.

My position course and speed. 3919 North,  
2455 East. 050. 11.

081600A.

Advance copies sent D.C., O.D.,  
D.N.I., & M.

V.C.N.S.  
D.N.I. (5)  
O.D. (8)  
M. (8)  
D.C. (2)  
D.S.O.

24.  
D.B.

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61849**

MESSAGE

124

IN

E / /

10 OCT 1947

UNCLASSIFIED

081400A/October

From BIGBURY BAY

Date 8.10.47

Recd. 1450

P/L

Addressed C. in C. Med. (M), C. in C. Med. (A)  
Info. C.S.1, Admiralty, H.B.N.M. (G), COMPAL

IMMEDIATE

Position course and speed:-

39 06 nrth  
24 33 east  
050  
13

081400A

Advance copy sent D.N.I., O.D., M., D.C. 1515/8th

V.C.N.S.  
D.H.I. (5)  
O.D. (8)  
M. (3)  
D.C. (2)  
D.S.O.

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61849

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**MESSAGE.**

125

**IN**

PV E / / /

**10 OCT 1947**

UNCLASSIFIED

081200A/October

DATE. 8.10.47.

FROM. BIGBURY BAY.

RECD. 1231

P/L

TO. C. in C. Med (M), C. in C. Med (A)  
INFO. Admiralty, H.B.N.M. (G), Compal.

IMMEDIATE

Position course and speed. 3844 north.  
2427.5 east 355. 12.

081200A

Advance copy sent D.N.I. O.D.  
M. D.C. 1255/8th

V.J.H.S.  
D.N.I. (5)  
C.D. (8)  
M. (8)  
D.C. (2)  
D.S.O.

PFB/24

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Reference:

**FO 371 / 61849**

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**SECRET**

how.

WARNING: This is an unparaphrased version of a secret cypher or confidential code message and the text must first be paraphrased\* if it is essential to communicate it to persons outside British or Allied Government Services.

126

(\*Note: Messages shown as having been sent in a One-Time Pad: "O.T.P." are excepted from this rule.)

E 9277/84/31. INDEXED

091551B/October.

13 OCT 1947

Date 9.10.47.

From A.B.N.A. Istanbul.

Rec'd 1753.

N.S. CYPHER O.T.P.

Addressed Admiralty,  
Info. C, in C, (?Med), COMPAL, B.N.A. Ankara.

IMPORTANT

Number 249 PAN YORK passed into Black Sea 1440B today Thursday.

2 Admiralty please pass to all except Ankara.

091551B

Advance copies D.C. and R.C. sent 2000.

- 1st Lord.
- 1st. Sea Lord. (3)
- V.C.N.S.
- A.C.N.S.
- Naval Secretary.
- Secretary.
- U.S.S.
- O.D. (8)
- D.C. (2)
- M. (8)
- D.N.I. (5)
- D. of P. (2)
- D. of P. (Q)
- C.N.I. (2)

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Reference: FO 371/61849

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1947  
894

1947

E

PALESTINE

127

E 9280

7 OCT 1947

Registry Number

E9280/84/31

FROM

G.O.

No.

Forward

Dated

Oct 7

Received in Registry

Illegal Immigration Policy  
Potential tel 1841 of 1 Oct. gives text of passage which occurs in a Reuters message no 49 of 29 Sept. Regarding repatriation of passengers from Padua and Northlands

Last Paper

9277

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Minutes.)

Mr. Fellows has already explained that his alleged "hint of repatriation" was due to a misinterpretation of the silence he maintained, at our request, about the fact that these Jews would really be sent to Cyprus.

The High Commissioner's objection to our publicity is not really sound (para 4-5 of this telegram). He can always censor such items locally. I have spoken to Mr. Higham (C.O.) who agrees and is writing to us about it.

*Fellows*  
(S.R. CABLE)

JB Oct. 7 7/10

(Action completed)

*J.E.M. 8/10*

(Index)

*[Signature]*  
9/10/47

Next Paper

E 9293

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Reference: FO 371/61849

**INWARD TELEGRAM**

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cypher (O.T.P.)

E / /

6 OCT 1947

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 1st October, 1947.

R. 1st " " 20.00 hrs.

mw 128  
E 9280

7 OCT 1947

No.1841 Secret.

Illegal Immigration Policy.

Following passage occurs in a Reuter message  
No.49 of 29th September. Begins.

"A British Foreign Office spokesman hinted today that if 2,500 Jewish passengers aboard the two ships PADUCAH and NORTHLANDS tried to land in Palestine, they might be returned to Bulgaria and Roumania.

He did not indicate what action the British authorities would take, but said that the normal international practice would be to return them to their countries of origin - in this case Bulgaria and Roumania".

2. The message goes on to give details of PADUCAH and NORTHLANDS and refers to negotiations between H.M.G. and the Governments of Bulgaria and Roumania.

3. Message caused considerable excitement here; publication of passage quoted, dealing with refoulement, was prohibited by the Censor as its appearance in the local press would have been calculated to be prejudicial to public order.

4. A further quotation of the Foreign Office spokesman, giving details and movement of PAN YORK and PAN CRESCENT, has appeared in today's "Palestine Post" and has again produced some excitement locally.

/5.

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

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128A

5. Coincidence of the pronouncements appears to indicate a reversal of policy in regard to publishing information concerning illegal immigration. I should be grateful if I might be informed whether this is so. I am anxious, in any case, to avoid building up expectations locally, and on security grounds (?decline) to agree to the announcement of estimated time of arrival of illegal ships in Palestine waters. In my view publicity should be directed towards showing up the part played by countries from which the ships sail and conditions on board.

Copies sent to:-

- Foreign Office (News Dept.) - Mr. Mathews.
- " " - Mr. Beith.

RECEIVED  
 7 - OCT 1947

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 Reference: **FO 371 / 61849**

2006  
395

1941

E

E 9293

PALESTINE

129

Registry Number

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

E 9293/84/31

7th W. H. H. H. H. H.  
Paris

940  
6 Oct  
7 -

SI PAN YORK

After receipt of 166 (E 9201/84/31) which represents a letter from the Committee by the superior attitude of the accepted French Committee of Illegal Emigrants. It is suggested a resolution by the Committee would be of great value to the Committee. It was felt that the resolution was already accepted and it was not to be taken as the matter.

Last Paper.

9280

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8.9.9.P.  
Oct. 9

(Action completed.)

G. L. H. H. H.

(Index)

H. H. H. H. H.

Next Paper.

9313

(Minutes.)

This is probably just one more of the unending series of French red herrings. Even if the French did sponsor such a resolution and get it through the Assembly, which seems most unlikely, it would come too late to do any good.

H. H. H.

(L.E. CABLE)

7/10

Western Dept. 16/11/41.

~~Western Dept. 16/11/41.~~

The Sec. Gen. should have known of the UN resolution.

B Oct. 8

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1	1	1	1	1	1

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Reference: FO 371/61849



E 9293

130

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

Cypher/OTP

CABINET DISTRIBUTION

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Ashley Clarke

No.940 D.5.15 p.m. 6 th October, 1947.

6th October, 1947. R.7.35 p.m. 6 th October, 1947.

Repeated to U.K. Delegation New York  
Marseilles Saving

IMPORTANT

Confidential

Light

Marseilles telegram No.166. E9

Pan York.

When I was representing today to the Secretary General the harm done to Anglo-French relations by the supine attitude of the competent French authorities towards vessels visiting French ports on their way to pick up illicit Jewish immigrants he said he wondered whether it would not be helpful if a resolution were passed by the Assembly calling on Member States to do what they could to see that the position in Palestine was not prejudiced while the Commission's report was still subjudice.

2. I pointed out that there was already one resolution in this sense on record and that we had frequently quoted it in our communications to the French Government but I thought possibly something more specific and urgent could be devised. He promised to reflect on the matter.

Foreign Office please pass to United Kingdom Delegation New York as my telegram No.66.

[Repeated to United Kingdom Delegation New York]

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Reference: FO 371/61849

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2007  
386

131

E

E 9513

PALESTINE

Registry Number EYS13/54/31  
 FROM D. J. Scherr  
 No. Forward  
 Dated  
 Received in Registry 5 Oct.

*Illegal Immigrant Ships.*  
 Copy of letter from Lt. Rennie to D.F. Scherr of Oct. 3. Drawing attention to item included in a Danish freight circular dated 19 Sept inviting offers for a ship to carry passengers eastward to Central America.

Last Paper

9293

References

(Minutes.)  
 Letter to Copenhagen Consular  
 8/10

(Print)

(How disposed of)

Dept. Consular  
 Copenhagen  
 2 Oct  
 from E. Dept  
 Oct 15  
 Camp. Rennie  
 21/Transport  
 10/10/50  
 Entered. Cons. Off  
 16 Oct

(Action completed)

7 Oct 16/10

(Indexed)

9/9/48

Next Paper

9314

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 Reference: FO 371/61849

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132

5 C P  
A-R E 9513  
E

3rd October, 1947

Dear Scherr,

My attention has been drawn to an item included in a Danish freight circular dated 19th September, issued by Sorenson & Jespersen, Shipbrokers, of Toldbodgade 2, Copenhagen K., which reads as follows:-

**"DISCHARTER ORDERS  
Passenger vessel**

able to carry 6/700 emigrants in Dormitories and about 2/300 Class Passengers in Cabins for 6/9/12 months with delivery Marseilles, and October for trade -

to central America. Speed not less than 13 knots. Offers invited with full particulars, plans and photo."

It has been suggested that the enquiry is "rather intriguing", although the particulars indicate requirement is for a normal emigrant class passenger ship. Nevertheless, it is considered the Working Party should be aware of this, in case central America is really Palestine, although it is considered that this is unlikely.

I am sending copies of this letter to Higham, Aversted and Cable.

Yours sincerely,

D. J. Scherr, Esq.,  
Box 500,  
Parliament Street B.O.,  
S.W.A.

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61849

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(2/47) (14728) Wt. 11489-144 250m 5/47 G.S.S.

Registry  
No. E 9313 / 84/31

Top Secret.
Secret.
<del>Confidential.</del>
Restricted.
Open.

S.E.C.

Draft. *U*  
Lofenroyan  
blaney  
from  
Eastern Dept

Copies to:  
Mr. Rennie  
M. of I.H.  
Mr. Higham C.O.  
Mr. Church  
Mr. Lehen M.I.5

OUT FILE

133

15<sup>th</sup> Oct.

14<sup>am</sup>  
15<sup>h.m</sup>

Dear blaney,

Our attention has been  
drawn ---

[Here insert from (A) to (B)  
in Mr. Rennie's letter]

2. This might just  
possibly be a disguised enquiry  
for a ship suitable for  
Jewish illegal immigration. We  
should be grateful for any  
information you can give us  
on the advertisers.

Yours ever  
Eastern Dept.  
8/10

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

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OUT FILE

134

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

(E 9313/24/31)

15th October, 1947.

RESTRICTED

Dear Chancery,

Our attention has been drawn to an item included in a Danish freight circular dated 19th September, issued by Buenson and Jespersen, Shipbrokers, of Toldbodgade 2, Copenhagen K., which reads as follows:-

"TIMECHARTER ORDERS

Passenger vessel

able to carry 6/700 emigrants in dormitories and about 2/300 class Passengers in Cabins for 6/9/12 months with delivery Marseilles, and October for trade -

to central America. Speed not less than 13 knots. Offers invited with full particulars, plans and photo."

2. This might just possibly be a disguised enquiry for a ship suitable for Jewish illegal immigration. We should be grateful for any information you can give us on the advertisers.

Yours ever,

EASTERN DEPARTMENT

The Chancery,  
British Embassy,  
Copenhagen.

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

297

134A

E

E 9314

1947

PALESTINE

Registry Number

E 9314/84/31

FROM

P.O. Morales

No.

Panamanian

Dated

consulate

Received in Registry

C-1147  
EHN  
6 Oct

"Pan York" and "Pan Crescent"  
Refer to letter (E 9159/84/31) of Oct. 12.  
contains request to his Govt to authorize  
cancellation of registration of both  
"Pan York" and "Pan Crescent". Encloses  
copy of letter to his Govt.

Last Paper

9313

References

7085 15th  
545

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Minutes.)

It seems to be a well-established  
custom of the Panamanian service that  
each member should do his utmost  
to discredit other members as often as  
he gets the chance.

J. E. Cashe  
(J. E. CASHE)

8/10

N.A. Dept.

JB out. 8

(Action completed)

J. E. Cashe  
10/20/47

(Index)

J. E. Cashe  
10/20/47

Next Paper

9316

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Reference: FO 371/61849

CONSULADO GENERAL  
DE LA REPUBLICA DE PANAMA

London, 6th October, 1947

No. C-1147  
EAM

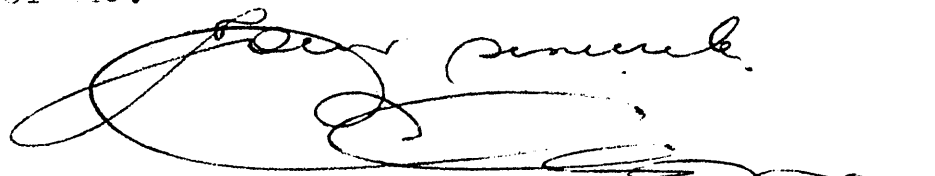
*Dear Mr. Beith* | E 9514

I refer to your immediate and confidential Note No. E 9159/84/31 dated the 4th October and I confirm our subsequent telephone conversation when I informed you that, in view of the strong evidence given in this case in support of the British Government suspicions that the s.s. "PAN YORK" and s.s. "PAN CRESCENT" will soon be engaged in the illegal traffic of jews to Palestine, I had decided to request my Government to authorize to cancel the panamanian registration of these vessels.

As I mentioned to you verbally, these vessels are not my direct responsibility as they were not registered by me, but I am determined to stop this traffic under our flag and in the case of these two vessels you fortunately have given me the means to act strongly. There is no doubt whatsoever in my mind that these vessels are suspect.

I enclose a copy of the letter which I have sent to-day to my Government confirming a telegram sent this morning.

I also note with pleasure that you will be replying to my personal letter. It is very important that I should have your reply before next Friday and perhaps you will be good enough to do this for me.

  
Eusebio A. Morales

J.G.S. Beith, Esq.,  
Foreign Office, S.W.1

114 am  
enter  
F  
35

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Reference: FO 371 / 61849

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Londres, 6 de Octubre de 1947.

Nº C-1146.-

Señor Don  
Joel Medina,  
Director de la Sección Consular y de Naves  
del Ministerio de Hacienda y Tesoro.  
Panamá, República de Panamá.

Señor Director:

Me apresuro a confirmar a usted mi  
cablegrama de fecha de hoy, que a la letra dice:

"SECNAVES - HACIENDA  
PANAMA

FOREIGN OFFICE EN NOTA E 9159/84/31 FECHADA  
HOY SOLICITAN COOPERACION GOBIERNO NACIONAL CAN-  
CELACION PATENTES PANYORK Y PANCESCENT SUMINISTRANDO  
DETALLES CONCRETOS QUE SUSTENTAN FUNDADAS SOSPECHAS  
DICHOS BARCOS DEDICARANSE MUYPRONTO TRAFICO JUDIOS  
PUNTO A FIN EVITAR REPITASE LO OCURRIDO CON NORTH-  
LANDS COMO INFORME MI NOTA C-993 FECHADA 4 JUNIO Y  
CABLEGRAMA POSTERIOR SOLICITO AUTORIZACION CANCELAR  
PATENTES BARCOS PANYORK Y PANCRESOENT ANTES SEA  
DEMASIADO TARDE PUNTO AEREO ENVIOLE TRADUCCION NOTA  
FOREIGN OFFICE

PANACONSUL"

Tal como anuncié a usted en dicho mensaje,  
me complace remitirle anexa al presente oficio, traduc-  
ción al castellano de la nota del Foreign Office Nº  
9159/84/31 de fecha 4 de Octubre actual, la cual contiene  
una relación detallada de las actividades a que han estado  
dedicados últimamente los barcos "PAN YORK" y "PAN CRESCENT".

Me permito sugerir la conveniencia de que  
la decisión del Gobierno Nacional al respecto sea comuni-  
cada con la mayor celeridad posible, debido a que, según  
opinión extraoficial expresada por funcionarios del Foreign  
Office, la dilación con que el Ministro en Francia y el

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Cónsul en Burdeos, cumpliendo instrucciones de ese Despacho, efectuaron la verificación de los cargos formulados, fué probablemente la causa principal de que las actividades del barco "NORTHLANDS" no hubieran sido interceptadas a tiempo, trayendo como consecuencia que dicho barco fuera detenido por autoridades inglesas en aguas de Palestina, con inmigrantes ilegales a bordo.

En espera de las instrucciones de ese Ministerio respecto a la actuación que me corresponda tener en este caso, me suscribo atentamente,

Eusebio A. Morales,  
Cónsul General de Panamá.

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Reference:

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401

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E

E 9353

9 OCT 1947

1947

PALESTINE

Illegal Immigration Policy.

Registry Number E9353/84/31.  
FROM I Higham  
No. Colonial Office  
Dated 7/10/47  
Received in Registry 4 Oct  
9 -

Refer to letter to 1541 (E9280/84/31) Re  
misinterpretation of statement by Reuters  
on the principle of 'repatriation' of passengers  
aboard 'Podiat' and 'Northlands'.  
Gives text of proposed reply to H/C.

Last Paper

9352

(Minutes.)

Please see E9280

References

*Jolie*  
(USCABLE)  
9/10

Mr Ferrer, News Dept.

Does this represent accurately  
enough the line you took?

*D. J. Smith*  
Oct. 10

(Print)

(How disposed of)

Yes, though the word 'repatriation' has  
not yet been used by News Dept. It was  
also added, in reply to a question, that  
in the case of the 'President Warfield'  
we had had the co-operation of the French  
Government in the return of the  
illegal immigrants.

*Rousse*  
(Personnel) 10/10

Mr Higham informed that

We convey about 13

In P.P. P.O. 61 2468 15/10

News Dept. 23/10

*Jolie*  
23/10

(Action completed)

*J. C. M.*  
14/10

(Index)

*[Handwritten signature]*

Next Paper

E9375

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Reference: FO 371/61849

Colonial Office,  
The Church House,  
Great Smith Street,  
London, S.W.1.

*Back to please  
JB out. 8*

139

76021/47

7th October, 1947.

E 9353

*My dear Blm.*

You will remember mentioning to me the other day that Reuters have misinterpreted a statement by your News Department about PADUCAH and NORTHLANDS and the possibility of refoulement. You will now have seen Palestine telegram No. 1841 Secret dealing with this.

The line we had agreed to take on this issue was contained in our telegram No. 1641 of the 24th July to Palestine as amended by Palestine telegram No. 1425. The effect of these two telegrams was that Palestine, if pressed on the refoulement issue, would say that "though standing firmly by the right of refoulement (which would be carried out in suitable cases) Government declines on security grounds to give its reasons for the disposal of illegal immigrants in particular cases."

If you agree we propose to reply to Palestine's No. 1841 to the effect that your spokesman did not suggest that immigrants on board the two vessels in question might be returned to Bulgaria or Roumania and that the Reuter message is obviously a misinterpretation of the Foreign Office's spokesman's reiteration of our thesis that refoulement is a normal international practice.

We might add a warning to the effect that since an approach would have to be made to foreign governments if refoulement was at any time intended, before the ships reached Palestine, it was quite possible that we should

/not

J.G.S. BEITH, ESQ.

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Reference: FO 371/61849

139A

not be able to prevent the news of our intentions from becoming public before the arrival of the ship at Haifa.

We propose to add that there is no reversal of policy in regard to publishing information concerning illegal immigration but that there may at times be clear advantage in making public information about suspect ships such as PAN YORK and PAN CRESCENT.

*Yours sincerely*

*John D. Higham*

(J.D. Higham)

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Reference: FO 371 / 61849



E 9353 / 84 / 31 INDEXED  
OUTWARD TELEGRAM

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

140

pw END

76021/47

Cypher (O.T.P.)

TO PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

Sent 15th October, 1947. 11.45 hrs.

No. 2468 Secret.

Your telegram No. 1841.

Foreign Office state that the Reuter message in question was misinterpretation of guidance given by News Department.

Spokesman did not suggest that immigrants would be returned to Bulgaria or Roumania but merely re-iterated the thesis in reply to questions that such action would be in line with normal international procedure.

2. Since an approach would have to be made to foreign governments if refoulement was at any time intended, we might well in such an eventuality be unable to prevent the news of our intentions becoming public before the arrival of the ship in Palestine.

3. There is no reversal of policy regarding publishing information about illegal immigration. At times however there may be clear advantage e.g. in arousing public opinion in countries concerned and to give thereby support to diplomatic approaches, in making public information about suspect ships such as PAN YORK and PAN CRESCENT. It is noted that you wish to avoid giving publicity to expected arrivals of illegal immigrant ships and this will be done as far as possible. It may nevertheless be difficult to achieve this once interest has been aroused in any particular vessel.

Copies sent to:-

Foreign Office

- Mr. Beith.

- News Department.

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61849

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